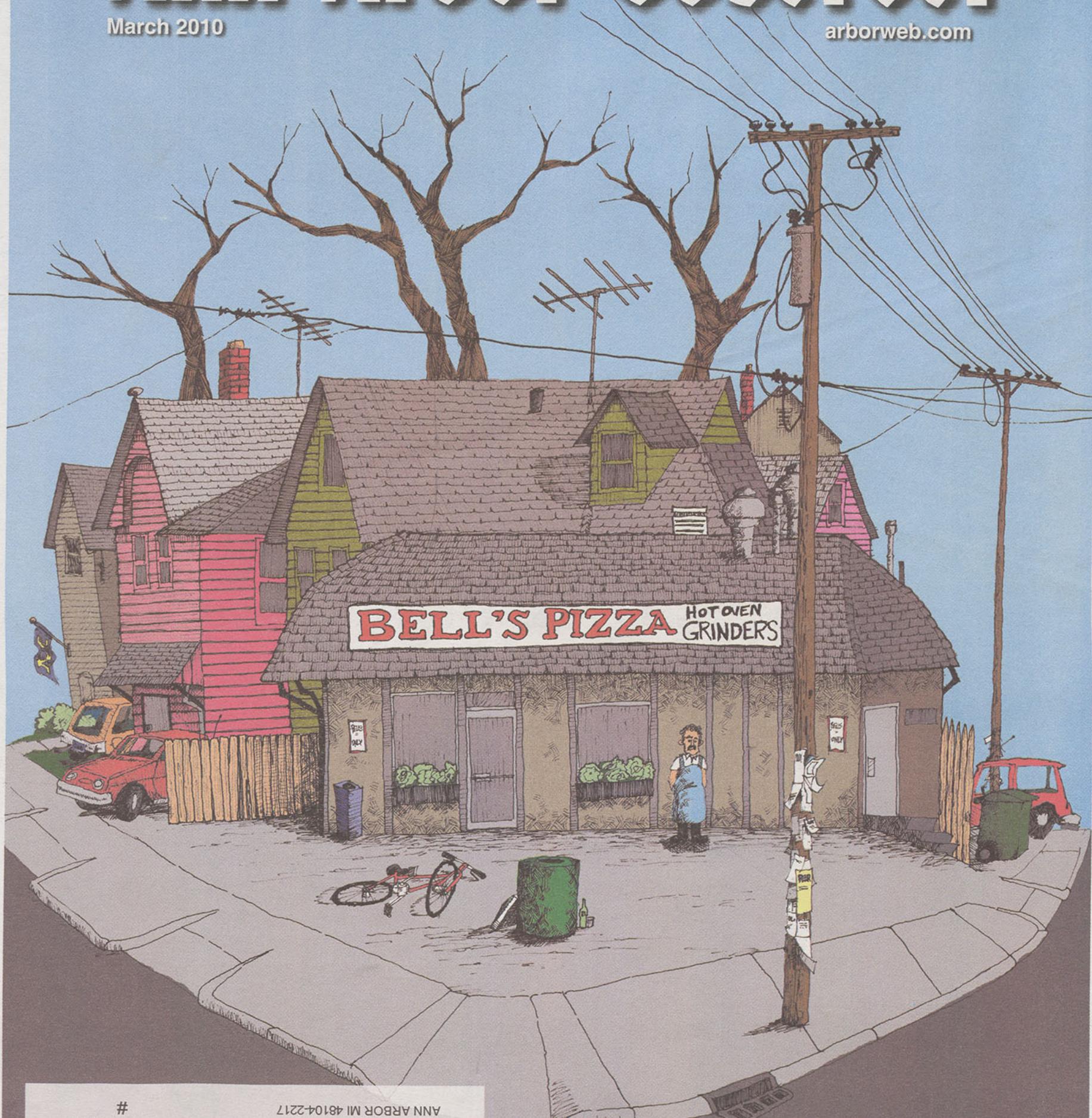


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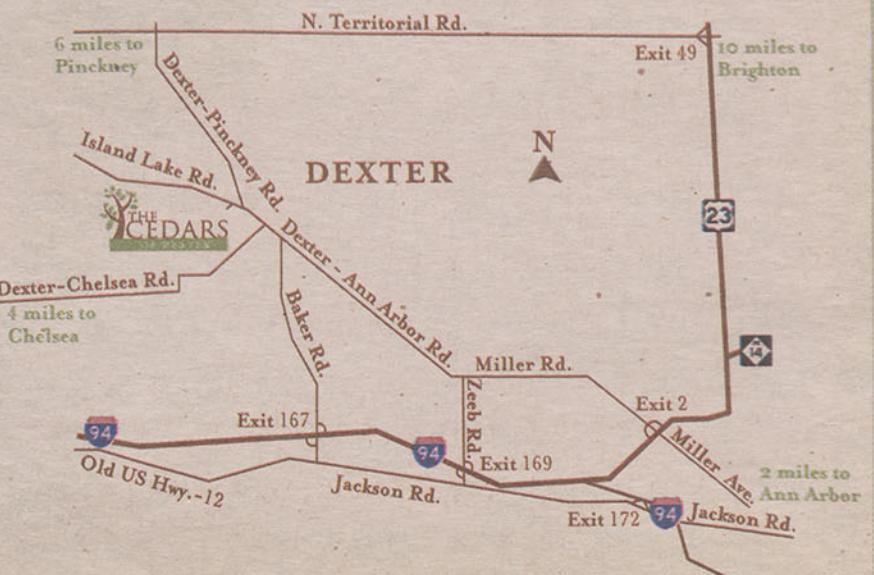
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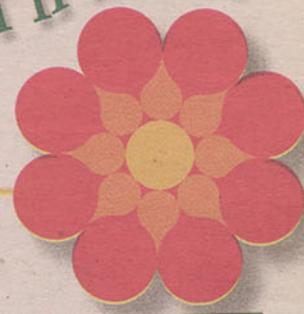
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St. Paddy's Madness
with Rita Conroy-Martin

Wed, March 17th — 12 to 1
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with Nancy Jenkins

Sun, March 21st — 1 to 2
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with Heather Anne Leavitt

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Sun, March 28th — 1 to 2
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SAT, MARCH 20TH

Monahan's 30th Anniversary

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Monahan's is celebrating 30 years in Kerrytown. Come on in Saturday, March 20th for fun and games, sales and samples!

SUN, MARCH 28TH

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Ann Arbor Observer

March 2010

vol. 34 • no. 7

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THE WINE ADVOCATE -86 POINTS - "BEST BUY"

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UpFront

West Park art: About a dozen people—glass artists, installation artists, muralists, interior and graphic designers—turned out at West Park on a cold, snowy February morning to hear city landscape architect Amy Kuras explain the city's latest “one percent for art” project. As part of a \$1 million-plus makeover of the park, three curved, concrete seat walls will be built into the hillside facing the park's historic band shell. The artists' assignment: to design an installation that will fit on the walls, be resistant to vandals and weather, and not interfere with the seating or viewing.

Those limitations had the artists thinking hard. “There's not much funding, figuring the cost per square foot,” pointed out Janet Kelman, a glass artist who just moved to Ann Arbor from Royal Oak. “To do a mosaic would be too great [an expense] given the \$10,000 budget for everything.”

Looking around, one artist saw a more dramatic option. “Is there any thought of incorporating the band shell?” she asked. “It is such a beautiful canvas, too.”

“The band shell is staying the way it is,” said Kuras.

“That gray?” asked the artist, practically raising an eyebrow.

“Yep,” said Kuras.

The bandshell, it turns out, is on the National Register of Historic Places—and history trumps art.

Dixboro Pure: What's in those big blue bottles sprouting at the base of the trees surrounding the Dixboro village green and the old Dixboro School on Plymouth Road? Gallons and gallons of sap that will be reduced to maple syrup by five friends—Steve Day, Mark Korzon, Rob Martens; Andy McLaughlin, and Derrick Oxender. The quintet—who met playing hockey in an over-forty league—tap ninety trees throughout the Ann Arbor area, draining the containers daily and boiling down the sap in their post-and-beam sugar shack in Superior Township. Depending on the sugar content, it takes forty to eighty gallons of sap to produce one gallon of syrup, but the result is worth it: their Dixboro Pure syrup won blue ribbons at the Chelsea Fair the past two years and sells briskly at Downtown Home and Garden.



Kroger chaos: The ongoing makeover of the Maple Road Kroger is leaving customers confused. As departments hopscotch around the store, disoriented patrons roam the aisles with stricken looks on their faces, beseeching employees to tell them where the dish detergent and aluminum foil and tuna have gone. One shopper stopped suddenly to ask for directions, only to be rear-ended by another scanning the unfamiliar shelves, triggering a traffic backup worthy of a snowy freeway at rush hour.

Workers trying to cope with the reconfiguration were constantly pulled away from their shelf-stocking and price-checking duties by people wanting to be told, or preferably shown, where to find the items on their lists. One longtime employee, previously famed for her encyclopedic knowledge of the store's inventory, sounded philosophical, if a little beleaguered.

“One thing for sure,” she said. “I ain't gonna gain any weight this week.”



On a roll: The Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee is picking up speed. They've mobilized the base: 120 kids showed up at a city council meeting in May 2008 to voice their support. They've enlisted

the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation and Fifth Ward council members Mike Anglin and Carsten Hohnke. And they've established ties with the private sector: Vault of Midnight held an art auction last year that drew 400 people and made \$9,000.

This year, “we're focusing on two big fund-raising events,” says Trevor Staples, skateboarder, third-grade teacher, and AASAC chairman. “There's a two-day event on March 12 and 13 that starts with a wine tasting hosted by Morgan & York on Friday, followed Saturday afternoon by a skate jam called the Red Belly Boardshop Grinds of March with celebrity skateboarder Andy Macdonald in a warehouse at 704 Airport Plaza [see Events], then a dance that night at the Elks Club. And we're having another art sale in May at the Vault.”

They're also reaching out to local philanthropists. “The whole project is for about \$1 million, with a \$100,000 endowment to keep it up,” says Staples. “If we raise half the money, we can start phase one.” The group hopes to begin construction at the northwest corner of Veterans Memorial Park this fall.

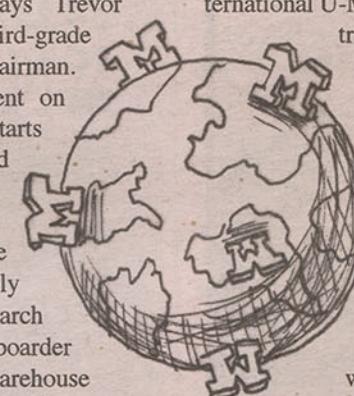
Pittsfield pipe: Any way you lay it, 30,000 feet is a lot of pipe. In fact, it's 5.7

miles—exactly the distance around the subdivision bounded by Packard, Washtenaw, Carpenter, and Golfside. Called Washtenaw Heights by its developers, it's Pittsfield Township's oldest residential neighborhood—and nobody's touched its water pipes since they went in the ground back in 1960. “We've been getting a lot of water main breaks there lately,” says Mike Luptowski, Pittsfield's utilities director. “I've been here six years, and it's gone from half a dozen to twenty-a-year.”

Luptowski says he's always had “a pipe dream” to replace the mains. “But after President Obama was elected, I realized there might be stimulus money available, so I put the afterburners on and assembled a team to get it shovel ready.” *Shovel ready* was just what the feds wanted to hear. In December, Pittsfield won a grant that will pay 40 percent of the project's \$7.8 million cost. The rest will be financed with twenty-year, 2.5 percent bonds. Luptowski says “the biggest pipe project in the state” will break ground no later than April 15 and be done by next spring.

Alumni abroad: Lisa R. Tucci is a 1985 U-M grad who runs her own company offering audio guides of Italy. Although she's lived in Italy since 1992, her connections to Ann Arbor run deep—her grandfather emigrated from the mountains of Abruzzi to attend the U-M in 1923. So it makes sense that Tucci now leads the University of Michigan Alumni Association of Italy. Members meet for happy hours in Rome and Milan, Tucci emails, “to share our experiences, and be part of an elite within the Italian legal or business worlds.” Their Michigan allegiance, she says, gives them “a sort of pedestal to stand on”—as well as “a place to shout ‘Go Blue!’”

The Italian outpost is one of thirty international U-M alumni groups, from Australia to Vietnam. Members are united by the same forces that bond stateside alumni: shared memories, networking, and U-M sports.



When Andy Fletcher moved from Michigan to Texas, he decided to make new friends by looking for people who were true Blue. It worked so well that he's now president of the U-M Austin Spirit Group and working to expand it into a full-fledged alumni club. (The twenty U.S. spirit groups gather mainly for sports events; the sixty-one clubs do more, including community service projects and helping to recruit students.) Ray Yee, president of the 1,000-member University of Michigan Club of Downriver, says his group awards scholarships and sponsors needy families around the holidays. And—never say die—the Downriver alums hold an annual Beat Ohio State Bust, where members cheer on the Wolverines and smash buckeyes. ■



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InsideAnnArbor

Money-Saving Merger

As membership falls, the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti chambers are cutting from the top.

When Jesse Bernstein became president of the Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce in 2006, it had between 1,300 and 1,400 members—a figure he aimed to double: “My goal was to get to 2,800 to 3,000 members as quickly as possible.”

Then the economy tanked. “Pfizer left,” Bernstein says. “The auto industry was hit hard. We took gut punch after gut punch.” Membership was down to about 1,100 when Bernstein stepped down last June, and the budget had fallen from about \$1 million to roughly \$900,000.

And that, more than anything, explains why in January the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti chambers merged. Diane Keller, former Ypsi chamber president and first president of the joint body, calls the merger “as fine an example as you’ll ever see of the invisible wall of US-23 coming down.” That’s true—but the deeper impetus was that the groups could live together or die alone.

The Ypsi chamber, too, lost members and revenue in recent years. Keller estimates the combined group will have about 1,500 members, with a budget of around \$1.2 million. And the merger should lower costs.

“We’ll streamline services,” says Keller. “We won’t need two phone systems, two copiers, and two postage machines.” She says they’re also “looking to sublease” the Ann Arbor chamber’s floor in the KeyBank building at Main and Huron. The Ypsi office is too small, however, to support both staffs, so any future location of the merged chamber is unclear.

As for reducing or eliminating duplicate staffs—currently eight in Ann Arbor, four in Ypsilanti—Keller says “we’re looking at reorganizing. There are a couple of people in Ann Arbor who have left recently, and we may not replace those positions.”

The biggest savings, though, will come off the top: Keller absorbed Bernstein’s job into her own. Neither will say what Bernstein earned. But during a brief search before the merger was announced, the position was advertised at a salary of \$85,000 to \$100,000 a year.



MARK BIALEK

Two presidents for the price of one:
Diane Keller heads the combined
Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti Chamber of
Commerce.

Filtering the Film Festival

Donald Harrison wants “to get Ann Arbor where its reputation is” as a center of avant-garde culture.

As director of the Ann Arbor Film Festival, it's Harrison's job to figure out how to keep the flame burning



MARK BIALEK

After fifty prescreeners filter the Film Festival's 3,000 entries, director Donald Harrison, senior programmer David Dinnell, and EMU film professor Brooke Dagnan select the final 150 or 200 that will appear on the big screen at the Michigan Theater March 23-28.

in a new world where almost anyone can make a cool film. A decade ago, a small cadre of seasoned screeners could sit and watch every one of the 300 or so entries, projected from actual film onto an actual screen. Now the festival receives around 2,500 submissions each year, the vast majority of them digital.

Harrison, whose friendly smile and dark-rimmed glasses make him look slightly bookish, says the festival remains committed to showing work that's marginalized or not easily understood. But he also wants to increase festival attendance. He guarantees that each screening this year will include at least one film that viewers will like—and at least one challenging film, like an award winner from last year's festival that was simply a play of light and shadows. Completely abstract, it alternated between hypnotic and excruciating.

Judging this kind of art is subjective, but the festival nearly has it down to a science. When submissions start arriving in August and September, fifty prescreeners begin to watch them. Every submission gets three initial screenings, which means those fifty people watch, on average, 150 films each.

Myrna Jean Rugg has attended the festival for decades, spending one sleep-deprived week every March going to as many screenings as she can. Now retired after a thirty-year career with Pfizer, Rugg has been a festival prescreener since 2006.

She recalls some memorably bad entries, like one that was a classic cowboys versus Indians western... except all the combatants were zombies. In another, an old-West sheriff visits a whorehouse where the ladies of the night are all vampires. Rugg regards zombies and vampires as a fad—and if she has anything to say about it, they're unlikely to show up on the big screen. On the other hand, last year she was blown away by *Nora*, a story told entirely in dance. She recommended it move up to the next round of screening, and it ended up winning the 2009 festival.

Rugg's favorites for this year include *Closer*, a very short tragedy about the vast difference in living conditions of the residents of neighboring townhouses, and *Out of the Blue*, the story of a lonely old man who “finds a TV...and falls in love—but I can't give away any more of the story,” she says. In February, she didn't yet know if either film would make the final cut.

A Home for Handicapped Riders

“It's kind of the final leg of the race here,” says Jan Vescelius, director of Therapeutic Riding, Inc.

TRI wants to build a new arena where people with handicaps can ride horses year round—and more of those on their long waiting list can finally get a seat in the saddle. The project was spurred into motion when Harold and Kay Peplau, longtime friends of the non-profit on Joy Road, donated \$1 million to pay for construction of a much bigger riding facility. Then TRI board president Mike Hommel put a small item in the Washtenaw Business Review announcing the group was looking for land. In a bit of kismet, Gordon Kummer of the



COURTESY THERAPEUTIC RIDING, INC.

Therapeutic Riding's eighty clients ride an hour a week in good weather. A new arena would increase that number and let them ride year round.

Lloyd and Mabel Johnson Foundation saw the notice—and soon everyone was negotiating. The upshot: TRI purchased a chunk of land on Morgan Road in Pittsfield Township that the Johnson Foundation had placed with the Legacy Land Conservancy. “The land has a conservation easement on it—it can never be developed,” explains Hommel. And the foundation was willing to let it go at what a TRI press release calls a “MUCH reduced price.”

Incorporated in 1984, TRI currently has about eighty clients, mostly children, but only a small, unheated indoor arena. Many riders have cerebral palsy, while others have less visible disorders like autism. The benefits of riding include improved physical coordination, newfound

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Inside Ann Arbor

confidence, and the sheer joy of moving on a horse. While trained teachers usually lead the riders with a rope, a few ride independently—and some even jump.

But, Vescelius says, "a lot of riders take a giant step backward [over the winter] because they can't ride in the cold." That's where the indoor arena comes in. TRI wants to break ground this spring, Vescelius says, but to do that it needs to complete a \$2 million capital campaign by April 1. In February, the group was still \$500,000 short—but if it raises another \$250,000, the Johnson Foundation will match that amount.

Vescelius points out that services for many handicapped children are paid for by a parent's medical benefits. When parents are laid off, "their children are losing some of their treatments—and in many cases, therapeutic riding is the only thing they have left. Unless their parents have a lot of money put away, we've become even more important in a lot of lives."

Cleaning up Allen Creek

Since late November, drivers passing Pioneer High School have been puzzled by enormous mounds of dirt at the southwest corner of Stadium and Main.

The "Allen Creek Stormwater Project at Pioneer"—a joint venture of the City of Ann Arbor, Ann Arbor Public Schools, and the county Water Resources Commission (the former drain commission)—is a \$3.1 million dollar effort, with 40 percent of the bill paid by a federal stimulus grant.

It aims to improve water quality in the Huron River by intercepting one of



COURTESY WASHTENAW COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

The big dig in front of Pioneer High School is part of a project to slow and clean storm water flowing through underground Allen Creek.

its tributaries, Allen Creek—which passes through the corner in an underground pipe. The creek was one of the defining natural features of Ann Arbor. City cofounder John Allen sited the town along its banks, and the configuration of Liberty, Miller, and Huron streets traces the high ground between its main branches. But it gradually devolved into an all-purpose drainage ditch and, beginning in 1925, was redirected into underground pipes.

"When the creek was first buried, the pipes were able to handle the amount of water that came through, most of the time," explains Harry Sheehan, environmental manager for the Water Resources Commission. "But just look at the west side of Ann Arbor, and see what's been developed since the 1920s. Behind Westgate and Maple Village shopping center, that's pretty much the top of the drainage area. Where there was once open land, now there's just a lot of pavement. The Allen Creek watershed is somewhere around 40 to 45 percent impervious—it's paved over, or it's rooftops or parking lots. The pipe that was buried in 1926 didn't account for all that."

"The Allen Creek watershed is somewhere around 40 to 45 percent impervious—it's paved over, or it's rooftops or parking lots. The pipe that was buried in 1926 didn't account for all that."

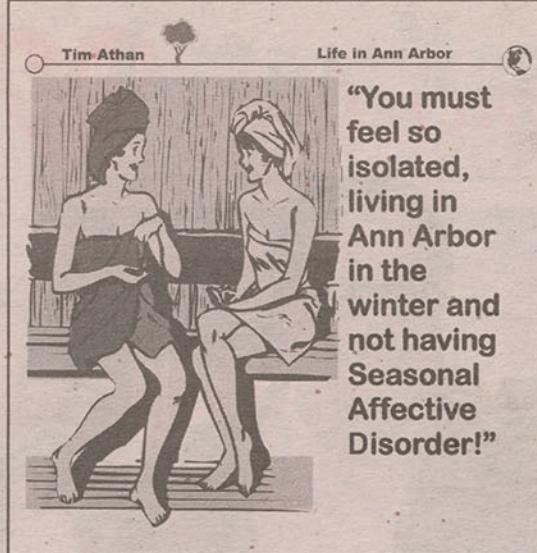
At Pioneer, two large underground pipes will bring storm water to four buried vertical concrete cylinders. These "swirl concentrators"—each seven feet high and eight feet in diameter—use an ingenious aluminum baffle design to set up a whirlpool as the water spirals downward. Silt, debris, and heavier-than-water pollutants fall to the slower-moving center of the vortex like undissolved sugar coming to rest in a stirred glass of iced tea. Debris that floats is redirected to a separate chamber. If E. coli is present, the majority of that will be removed, since it typically attaches to sediment.

From the swirl concentrators, the cleaned water enters a pair of massive concrete rectangular basins buried twenty-five feet underground, about the level of the old Allen Creek. How big is "massive"? One basin, fed by a fifty-four-inch-diameter pipe, is 160 feet wide, 176 feet long, and six feet high. The other basin, connected to a forty-two-inch pipe, is the same length, half as wide, and two feet higher. The bottoms of the tanks are perforated with scores of holes the diameter of a tennis ball. Most of the newly cleaned water will seep through those holes, filter back through the sandy ground, and become groundwater.

calls & letters

Gluten free at Hiller's

"Your article about Gluten-free Ann Arbor failed to mention the #1 grocer offering gluten-free food—Hiller's Market," emailed Mary Bernier in response to a January Inside Ann Arbor story. "I've had celiac [disease] for 15 years and find Hiller's THE place to shop."



Greg Marker, a 1993 Pioneer grad, is a field engineer on the project for contractor OHM Engineering Advisors. According to Marker, the system will handle the majority of storms—those that produce less than a half inch of rain—before the flow becomes so great that storm water passes directly through the tank outflow pipes rather than seeping into the ground. Either way, the water will head down the pipes at a slower speed. "The exit flow is no different than if everything upstream was all porous or grass," says Marker. It will be as if the 308 acres of the creekshed upstream from Pioneer—about 9 percent of the total—had never been developed.

Once the construction is done and the holes filled in, the site will be landscaped with a small plaza at the corner and 130 native riverbank trees tracing the course of the buried creek.

Ecological concerns weren't the only factors considered in the project: it's also been shaped by U-M football. The site previously belonged to the U-M, which sold it to the Ann Arbor Public Schools in 1950 with the stipulation that it remain open for football parking. Construction couldn't start until after the Ohio State game in November, and the landscaping is designed so that cars will still be able to park on the site.

There's a proposal on the table to increase the parking fee from \$30 to \$35 per car this year. If it takes effect, the public schools will collect nearly \$1 million this year from U-M football fans.

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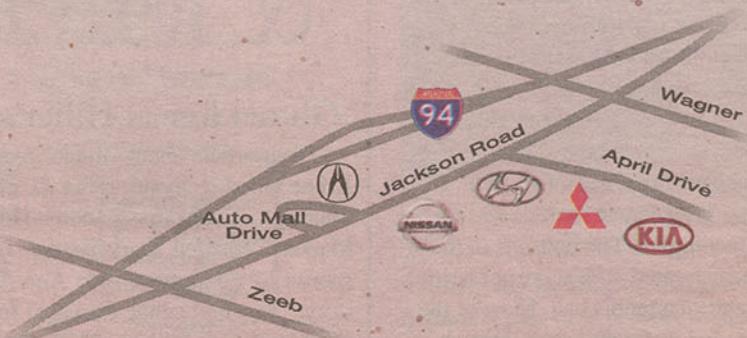
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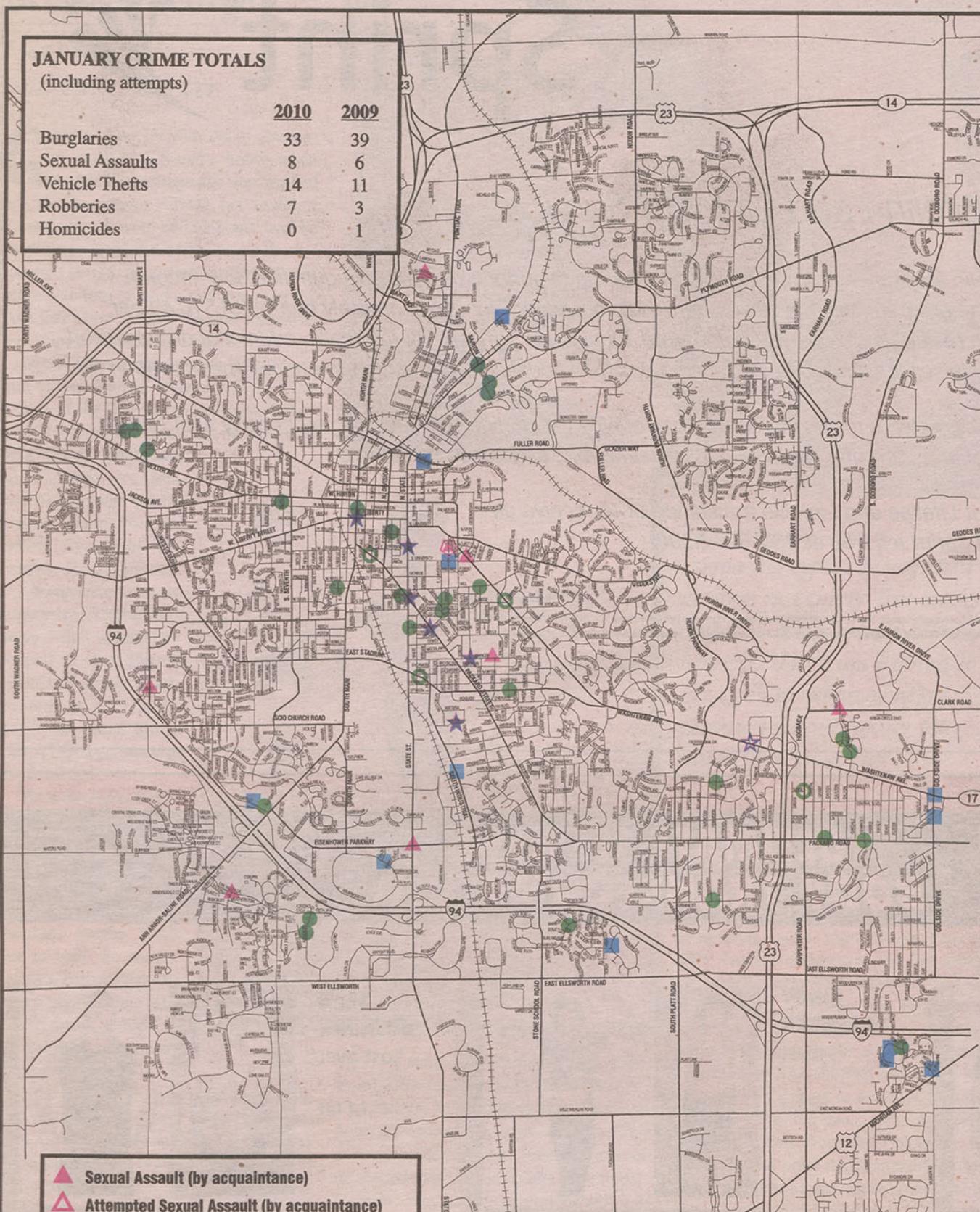
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JANUARY CRIME TOTALS (including attempts)

	2010	2009
Burglaries	33	39
Sexual Assaults	8	6
Vehicle Thefts	14	11
Robberies	7	3
Homicides	0	1



- ▲ Sexual Assault (by acquaintance)
- ▲ Attempted Sexual Assault (by acquaintance)
- ▲ Sexual Assault (by stranger)
- ▲ Attempted Sexual Assault (by stranger)
- ★ Robbery
- ★ Attempted Robbery
- Burglary
- Attempted Burglary
- Vehicle Theft
- Attempted Vehicle Theft

**K
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Y**

These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **January 2010**. Because locations are reported by block rather than by address, placement is approximate.

If you need police help in an emergency, call 911. If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996-3199** in Ann Arbor, (800) 863-1355 on campus, or 944-1238 in Pittsfield. If you have questions about a crime shown here, call Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994-8775, Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.), the U-M Department of Public Safety (763-1131), or the Pittsfield Department of Public Safety (944-4911).

The box at the top of the map shows the number of crimes reported in January 2010 and January 2009.

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Ann Arborites

Gregory George

Carpenter
and ballet dancer

Gregory George was doing carpentry work at a friend's house when the friend's college-age son walked in. "He knew that I danced, but he didn't know I knew how to build a house, and he [had never seen] me with a tool belt on," recalls George. "He drew a character of me with a tutu on and a tool belt over it." And that's how George became known as the "dancer with the tool belt."

When George was six, his father took him to see Rudolf Nureyev in *Sleeping Beauty* at the Detroit Opera House. Afterward, George announced that he wanted to be a dancer. His father, an engineer at General Motors who briefly played violin for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and his mother, a homemaker, were supportive. Though his peers in elementary school in the Detroit suburb of Wayne taunted him as a "mama's boy" and called him a "fairy," George stuck to his dancing.

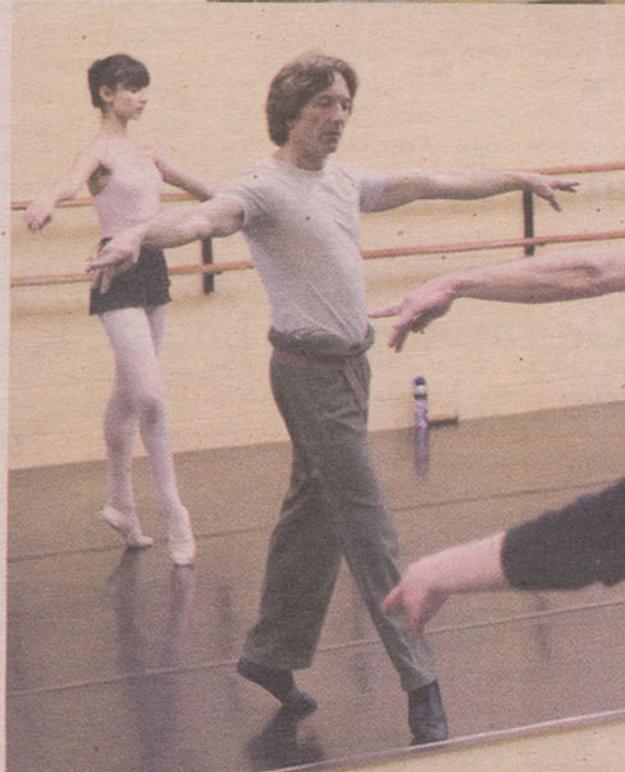
As a teenager, things got easier. "I went to a teen dance, and I could move really well, and the girls really appreciated that. And the guys thought, maybe that's not so bad," he recalls. It also helped that he was a good athlete who could throw a football as well as land a mean pirouette.

Now fifty-three, divorced, and the father of a sixteen-year-old Huron High student, Gabby, George says matter-of-factly: "The ballet world is full of gay men. I'm just not one of them." Handsome, with a small muscular frame and longish hair, George directs the Children's Ballet Theatre of Michigan in Lansing and is a freelance choreographer. A former principal with the Ohio Ballet in Akron and the Indianapolis Ballet Theatre, he's optimistically planning a bold new project: starting an adult professional ballet company in Ann Arbor. All this in addition to his construction work with Washtenaw Woodwrights.

George learned carpentry as a young man while attending the former Chicago Ballet School on a scholarship. Learning that ballet companies typically pay their dancers just thirty-five weeks a year, he recalls asking himself, "How am I going to get a job to supplement my income without taking too much from danc-



PHOTOS BY ADRIAN WYLIE



ing?" He started as a carpenter's assistant, learning the trade from watching others.

Attention to aesthetics is an asset in both his careers, he says. And teaching dance to children taught him the patience he needed to work with adults on remodeling jobs. "You have to control the way you say things so it doesn't come across negatively—and take their negative thoughts and turn them around to a positive."

Both jobs demand constant awareness of his body movements. "I might have to lift a lot of heavy materials or be on a roof, so I really have to pay attention," he says. "With dancing, I might get a back injury from lifting girls. As I'm getting older and I get closer to shows, [the risk of injury] gets a little nerve-racking."

George sees his Great Lakes Contemporary Ballet Company as the culmination of his dance career. He figures he'll need about half a million dollars to launch the group—huge, in today's economy. But he exudes confidence. "I'm a pretty gifted choreographer, and I can do any ballet—and because of that I'm not afraid to take

Learning that ballet companies typically pay their dancers just thirty-five weeks a year, George recalls asking himself, "How am I going to get a job to supplement my income without taking too much from dancing?"

on bigger projects." He's counting on corporate benefactors, patrons, and a teaching academy to bring in funds.

When it is pointed out that the city's best-known dancer, U-M professor Peter Sparling, had to close his company in 2008, George emphasizes that his group will have a much lower overhead. "I want to weave my way into the community with respect and collaboration," he says, noting the competitive nature of local fund-raising. "I'm starting with about six dancers. I don't want to grow too fast too big and step on too many toes." He plans to draw dancers from the University of Michigan and other dance companies for larger productions and hopes to mount his first show by this summer.

"Greg's work speaks for itself," says Michael Chan, one of the company's four board members. "Funding is scarce, but there are performing arts aficionados out there that are willing to support him."

At a recent class for his adult dancers in a rented studio space on Plaza Drive, George cues up music by Fiona Apple—not your typical ballet score. He takes the all-female group through a graceful, traditional barre warm-up, then switches the music to a rollicking upbeat tempo played at nightclub volume. Demonstrating quick, contemporary ballet footwork, he conveys both playfulness and seriousness as he leads the students through several vignettes of advanced moves. "Isn't that fun?" he says with a big smile.

—Susan Todoroff

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This month watch for the Spring/Summer 2010 Parks & Recreation Program Guide

Lefty's Lessons

The wisdom of a three-legged dog

This story begins like a third-grade math problem: you enter a room and count thirty-six limbs. Nine people are in the room, right? Wrong. You should have said eleven humans and a dog. Two people in the room have all their appendages. Four people are missing one arm. Three people have one leg. Two people have no legs at all. To add to the count, there is a three-legged dog aptly named Lefty. These twelve individuals—with their combined thirty-six limbs—form an amputee support group.

The group addresses an array of topics pertaining to life as an amputee. Conversations range from mobility issues to the intricacies of cooking with one arm. They meet monthly at U-M Hospital under the guidance of social worker Maggie Kelly and limb loss coordinator Shauna Mote. An amputee herself, Mote holds the only paid position of its type in the nation. Funded jointly by the U-M Cardiovascular Center and the U-M Orthotics and Prosthetics Center, it's the hospital's way of recognizing that its job does not end on the operating table—life as an amputee begins when the anesthesia fades.

This is a diverse bunch formed by misfortune. The absence of an appendage is the only bond that these people have. Socioeconomic status and residence vary. Tragedy does not care what your zip code is or how many digits are in your paycheck.

The youngest member is also the newest. She is a hip, twenty-five-year-old former prom queen. Her blond ringlets extend down to the nub that was her elbow. It's only been a month since a drunk driver ran a red light and hit her car. The car door collapsed, pinning her arm against the steering wheel. Her boyfriend now struggles with the thought of dating an amputee.

The next oldest in the group is a thirty-four-year-old police officer. While working the graveyard shift a few years ago, he approached a man illegally parked in a handicap spot. "Come on, man, there aren't any handicapped people out at this time of night," was the man's excuse. The officer rolled up his right pants leg and both men stared at the titanium shaft that is his leg. He asked the man, "Where should we be at this time of night?"

The oldest member is a seventy-eight-year-old man with diabetes. He struggles to control his illness and has a missing leg to prove it. Every year he spends a few days after Christmas in the hospital getting his blood sugar corrected; the cookies and ham beat him every time.

The dog is certainly the most improbable member of the group. She was destined to be an amputee from birth;



COURTESY ASHLEY SPRAGUE

Sort of an amputee version of the Mack Truck bulldog, Lefty is the group's unspoken mascot.

a deformed right leg gave Lefty a one-way ticket from her breeder's house to the animal shelter. Jane Sprayberry, a U-M nurse, adopted her. A surgeon removed the deformed leg, and, as soon as the stitches came out, Sprayberry asked the group if she and Lefty could join it.

Naturally, the members treated the idea of allowing a dog to attend their meetings with caution; this is a serious group, not a *Saturday Night Live* skit. But they were immediately intrigued when they saw her. A former Marine and fellow amputee voiced the group consensus, saying, "I feel your pain, buddy."

Lefty is now the unspoken mascot of the group—sort of an amputee version of the Mack Truck bulldog. Even without words, Lefty has turned out to be an excellent teacher. Her lessons about how to live as an amputee are wholly unconscious and entirely unforgettable.

This group knows the litanies of suffering well. Members have spent days—for some, years—asking why: Why me? Why now? Why didn't I just die? Why is there all this suffering? Then, enter this amputee dog. Lefty does not ask why bad things happen to good dogs—she just gets on with her life. In a culture obsessed with fairness and equality, Lefty's demeanor is untroubled. Life has dealt her a bad hand, but that is OK with her.

The night that the former prom queen joined the group, she told the story of her amputation for the first time. Soon she broke into tears. Before anyone could say anything, Lefty got up and hobbled across the room.

She sat down in front of the crying woman, heaved her one front paw onto her shoulder, and gave her a kiss. The tense room melted into laughter. The dog did what everyone wanted to do. A slobbery kiss always helps.

—A. Trevor Sutton

This group is real, these events all happened, and the characters are an accurate cross section of the group's members. Some personal descriptions have been changed to protect privacy.

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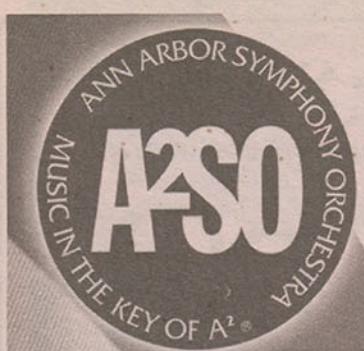
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Diana Oughton's death still makes no sense, even after forty years of pondering. She was a bringer of light, of joy. Yet the FBI found the tip of her right little finger in the rubble that was left of a Manhattan townhouse. How do you get a good fingerprint from a dead pinkie? Where did the rest of her go?

Four years earlier, Diana brought sudden sunshine into the American Friends Service Committee office where I worked, in the basement of Ralph Kerman's home on Woodlawn. Her tawny hair and light gold skin seemed illuminated by her huge smile. She came to visit our intern, Art Koeninger, who had worked in Guatemala while she was volunteering there in Chichicastenango. Both had been deeply moved by their experiences, and they had formed an immediate bond. Her first words to me were a gentle correction of how to pronounce her name. She leaned forward, her hair swinging over her shoulder, and said carefully and quietly, "OW-ten. OW-ten." Her smile and genuine friendliness



CO RENTMEESTER, TIME & LIFE PICTURES, GETTY IMAGES

The Compassionate Life and Terrible Death of

DIANA OUGHTON

took the sting out of her words, and I was caught in her aura.

Like all of my friends in the 1960s, she was outraged by the world situation—poverty, injustice, the Vietnam War. But she was also full of enthusiasm for her causes: her boyfriend, Bill Ayers; the Children's Community, the alternative primary school they ran; and the antiwar movement. Intelligent, articulate and committed, she kept inviting me to come see the school, to become part of her work. So I left AFSC at the end of 1967 to join the staff in the school, which met in the basement of Friends Meeting House.

The Children's Community was modeled on Summerhill, the famous alternative school in England. The six of us on staff worked hard to create an open atmosphere. Bill lectured us about poverty, capitalism, racial integration, social class, and child development. But I watched Diana to learn teaching. She brought the love and gentleness that kept the school and staff together, despite our not knowing much at all about what we were doing.

Our students were a mix of academics' kids and children recruited from Ann Arbor's black neighborhoods, many of whom lived in poverty. They all adored her. She usually had one or two in her arms. She fed, smiled, cleaned, wiped tears and runny noses, comforted, and explained. We didn't believe in forcing children to act a certain way, so many of them behaved with the violence they lived with at home. But when Diana was there, the atmosphere was much gentler, and the chil-

dren stopped fighting and learned.

For more than a year, Diana and Bill revived my faith in the future. Our mission was to give all the kids an equal education and to rescue some from the hopelessness of poverty. When they were wild or abusive, we accepted it as our due for our privileged upbringings. The more we slaved, the more we were saved. When Bill was jailed after a sit-in at the local draft board, we walked around the jail's urine-yellow cement walls and were thankful for such a doable penance. But after his release, there was no relief. We had abased ourselves, had suffered the righteous penalties of working for minute pay and living minimally. And still the war went on.

It was the war, not the school, that became Bill's focus. He was there less and less often. When he showed up for staff meetings, he filled them with his political diatribes.

By the summer of 1968, everything was changing. The Quakers told us we could

no longer rent their space due to breakage, dirtiness, and general chaos. While Diana organized us to search for alternative locations for the school, Bill tried to recruit us into a commune. He called for total submission to the cause: communal living and an end to monogamy.

At this, I balked. Share my boyfriend? Let go of my teddy bear? How would that stop the war? I couldn't; I just couldn't. The thought of lying naked next to one of those unwashed bodies was too disgusting.

Diana joined the commune, but she was never dirty. She whispered to me, "I stopped shaving my armpits! I smell worse than Bill!" I sniffed discretely but

**SHE LOVED
TEACHING YOUNG
CHILDREN IN
ANN ARBOR.
BUT FORTY
YEARS AGO THIS
MONTH, SHE
DIED BUILDING
TERRORIST
BOMBS.**

By CENDRA LYNN



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Diana Oughton taught at the Children's Community, the school in Ann Arbor she ran with Bill Ayers. Fatally, she followed Ayers into the Weathermen faction of the Students for a Democratic Society. On March 6, 1970, Oughton and two other Weathermen in a Manhattan townhouse.

smelled only her normal, mild scent. Even though she was trying desperately to shed her own privileged past, she still couldn't smell bad.

When I first visited the house on Felch Street where Bill, Diana, and another staff member had moved, she came running—

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The Compassionate Life and Terrible Death of DIANA OUGHTON

tall, beautiful, and naked—from the shower to their bedroom, giggling and saying, “I hope none of the kids come in.” The house was in the neighborhood where many of our students lived, and they came in and out at will. I wish I could have sniffed her once in the weeks right before she blew up to find out if she had managed to at least escape the smell of unwashed bodies.

Those early days on Felch were halcyon compared to what came next. Bill and Diana were trying to have a child. People came and went from the house, and there were music, talk, laughter, dope, kids, stray pets. It wasn’t until later that I learned some of the darker truths, such as Diana’s tears over Bill’s absence every month during her fertile days. She had given up monogamy in principle, but in practice wanted Bill and their baby. Diana was caught between what she could see, hear, and touch and the powerful polemics from Bill.

She had little choice but to stick with Bill and the cause. The school was not likely to continue. The spring and summer of 1968, with the violence at the Democratic National Convention, the escalation of the war, the murders of Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy, was a time of total disillusionment. By fall we had lost the future we had once believed in, and desperate acts seemed logical and sensible.

By the end of September, we formally closed the school. We had not located a place to rent, and we had lost our focus and fervor. But Diana had found a new identity. She went from confused but optimistic to dictatorially preaching the party line.

I have a snapshot memory of her dropping by my house on an unusually balmy day at the start of December. With great fervor she announced that we were no longer going to listen to the Beatles. Startled, I asked why. Because of their song, “Revolution,” she replied. Still confused and as naive as ever, I asked why again. “Didn’t you listen to the words?” she replied scornfully.

In fact, I had—and thought they made pretty good points about violence, hate, destruction, and the difficulty of what we were trying to do. But I didn’t dare then to tell her that. Her hair was still golden, but her heart was hardening, and her smile was gone.

Would it have made a difference for our futures if I had spoken up? I can’t know, and even now I can’t find a quick comeback in the face of hostility. But I do have a voice now, and I know that my opinions matter. And I remember how often in the

1960s and 1970s those of us who took the peaceful values of the counterculture to heart and tried to live them in nonpolitical ways were outshouted, ignored, and scorned by self-important activists who got their words and pictures in the media.

My last clear memory of Diana is of her calling to me from the back of Bill’s motorcycle. He was charging through the gravel in a construction zone along the river, where the city was building what became Gallup Park. I, on my own too-large, foolishly purchased BMW, was terrified of sliding out. I slowed down and watched as they vanished in the dust. Diana was holding Bill with one arm and waving with the other, laughing at the thrill.

I wondered how she could do that, how she could set aside awareness of danger, how she could enjoy taking such risks. But I never got the chance to ask.

BILL CALLED FOR TOTAL SUBMISSION TO THE CAUSE: COMMUNAL LIVING AND AN END TO MONOGAMY.

was incomprehensible politics, and without Diana there was nothing there for me.

Then I lost touch with them. When the Students for a Democratic Society split, Bill and Diana were in the violent faction, the Jesse James gang. From there they formed the revolutionary Weathermen and disappeared underground.

The war kept growing, and young men were still being drafted to fight. As a volunteer draft counselor, I had to give them the information they needed to make their own decisions about whether to go or flee to Canada. The horrendous burden of knowing that each man I talked to could so easily end up dead added to the fear that engulfed us.

They say that if you can remember the Sixties, you probably weren’t really there. It was such a traumatic time for those actively involved in social and political issues that memory often comes in unmatched fragments.

For me the horror had begun at the Washtenaw County Courthouse in 1967 when I was a monitor on a picket line. It was a demonstration of welfare mothers demanding more...what? Something innocuous, like more Aid to Dependent Children, or milk for their kids. Mothers and children, black and white, circled the courthouse peacefully, carrying signs, pushing strollers, holding toddlers’ hands.

Sheriff Doug Harvey responded by calling in the Detroit Mobile Tactical Unit—the riot squad. As people marched

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peaceably past me, obeying my calls to keep moving and not block the sidewalk, I heard screams of terror. I looked behind me and saw the barrel of a shotgun aimed at my nose. Above the black, gloved hands that held it was a masked face with eyes that looked back at me with a cold, impersonal stare. At a word of command he would blow me away as one squishes a mosquito. I was not a person, a woman, a scared little girl. I was the enemy.

I turned away and heard myself again urging peacefulness and order. More screams. The streets were sealed off, and giant vans were unloading more policemen from the K9 unit. Many women were sobbing with terror. I heard my voice reassuring them that the dogs were on leashes and would not hurt them. How young and stupid I was. The dogs were not, in fact, unleashed that day but were every bit as lethal as the shotgun: only a word away from action.

That was the day the lights of my world started blinking out. Our brains won't let us recall too much at once. It was a horrible, impossible world, which none of us survived intact. I remember the rest of that era in fragments, like patches torn from a quilt.

I see some patches clearly. On the evening of March 6, 1970, I go into Cottage Inn, and my arm is grasped by one of the old staff members from the Children's Community. Breathlessly she tells me that there has been an explosion at a townhouse in New York and that people think Diana and Ted Gold had been in it.

My brain shoots a dozen questions: New York? What townhouse? Blew up? Who is Ted Gold? Why is this woman whispering? But my mouth refuses to work, and in that instant she and her friends race out the door and disappear for another couple of years.

The next day the newspapers confirm it: Diana and two other Weathermen, Ted Gold and Terry Robbins, were believed to have been making bombs in the townhouse basement and to have died in the explosion. I alternate between numbness and a voracious need to read everything I can find about the Weathermen, Diana, and what they found in the rubble, including her pinkie. But the more I read, the more senseless it becomes. That wasn't Diana; she couldn't have been making bombs. I live in a fog of terror. The world now makes no sense whatever.

In another scene, I'm in a room at my friends' apartment in Chicago. It's some weeks—a month?—after Diana died, and I'm phoning her parents. It's a small room, with a dark leather chair and a red carpet.

I know nothing about her family except the town in Illinois where they live. I am surprised to find their number and more surprised when her father answers and gets her mother on the extension.

In our grief we are all eager to talk about her. They are very touched that I have called. They tell me they held a memorial service for her and many people came, but none of her recent friends. I am the only one to contact them. I am embar-

rassed for us. I don't yet know the extent of the craziness of the Weathermen, but I already know none of them will call; they are terrified the FBI will find them.

What her mother wants most to know is why: Why did this happen? Why was her daughter there? Of course I have no answers. I try to tell them how I met Diana, what we did together, but that was years ago. Since then, I had watched that group of people dissolve themselves into nuttiness and violence: an inchoate cult. There is no way I am going to inflict that on these grieving people. How can I tell them about mandatory group sex, about the lessons on how to kill police dogs?

I stand between two worlds, lost for words, when her mother bursts out: "It was Bill, wasn't it? It was Bill! He led her into this, didn't he? It was Bill."

Although it isn't that simple, it also is that simple. "Yes," I reply. "It was Bill."

For several years after Diana died, a friend from the school and I got together on March 6. We met in a booth in the basement of the Blind Pig, ordered cappuccinos, and held a private service of remembrance. It felt vital to keep her memory alive, to not lose all that love and light she had brought us.

Even now, my memories of Diana return each year when the days get gray and slushy. I see her smile, hear her laugh again, and feel my spirits lift as in spring's returning sun. This February I drove to Williamston to meet that same friend in a small restaurant overlooking a river—a beautiful place for our fortieth-year memorial.

That sharp, searing, stinging pain of her death is just as bad as it was at first, but it now lasts only minutes. Mostly we are happy at having even just this much of Diana—these memories—still active in our lives. We talk about little things, funny things, and difficult things. As always, we each recall something the other had not known, details of an era that we can neither forget nor fully remember.

Survivors of the Weathermen have published theories about what went wrong in that Manhattan townhouse. They've suggested that the bomb-makers grew careless, or even that Diana, concerned about killing innocent people, chose to kill the bomb-makers instead.

I tell my friend about a dream of Diana that came to me a few months after the explosion. Wanting to understand what had happened, in the dream I begged Diana for an explanation. She laughed ruefully, saying that they had put some of the bomb-making materials too close to a heat register. Nothing dramatic, just something small and stupid. And then she was gone, leaving the lightest scent of her natural fragrance, which still lingers.

My friend and I agree that it doesn't matter whether the dream was true. Because there is absolutely nothing about Diana's death that could have been real, except that they found a tiny piece of her little finger.

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As passionate as Carolyn is about supporting the arts in this great city, she's even more passionate about her career as one of Ann Arbor's premier real estate professionals. In fact, she's helped so many families find The Spirit of Ann Arbor, she's become somewhat of an institution here herself. Carolyn Lepard is the ideal Realtor® to help you make the most of your real estate needs. Call her today.

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Trust the Local Expert When it's Time to Sell Your Home!

The Masters of LTL

At Ann Arbor's \$2.5 billion trucking company, it's all about velocity.

by Michael Betzold & Tim Athan

Here's Con-way Freight's problem: pick up 60,000 small consignments of freight from separate locations around North America—anything from a generator to half a dozen pallets of flooring. Bring them to one of more than 300 warehouses, and combine them to fill more than 6,000 semi-trucks. Get every truck onto the interstate bound for another warehouse. Unload the generator, the flooring, and the rest of the cargo, put it on other trucks, and get everything to its destination—reliably, quickly, and cheaply.

This is the "less-than-truckload" freight business (LTL). And scheduling and routing all those shipments is so complicated that early last decade, Ann Arbor-based Con-way Freight (CF) asked the U-M business school to help figure it out. But even the university was daunted.

Instead, the company hired a Thai-born programmer who had once worked on targeting antitank missiles for the Chinese army.

"It turned out it was actually tougher than rocket science," laughs Yafeng Du. But, in the end, not too tough for Du, who has a PhD from the University of California.

So, at 6 p.m. every day, in a large suite of offices overlooking US-23, a Con-Way supervisor sets Du's computer program running. Seven minutes of heavy computation time later, it spits out the routes and schedules for the 4,000 drivers whose runs are east of the Mississippi River.

What follows is a tense hour as CF's regional coordinators make sure every route is covered. "We're four drivers short in Dayton!" announces Keith Fisher, the war room's general for the night. Studded with maps and with TV screens showing the Weather Channel, the room looks like a cross between a gamers' convention and an air traffic control center, but it's populated by truckers—lots of balding or crew-cut good old boys huddling over computer monitors.

The volume, location, and destination of shipments from regular and not-so-regular clients change daily, so the puzzle is always different. And in a highly competitive industry where time really is money, there's little room for error.

"It's like chess," says Du. "You make a move, but it's hard to tell at the beginning whether it's a good move or a bad move."

By 7:30 p.m., the trucks are starting to move out of Con-way's eastern facilities. A half hour later, Fisher launches the



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

In Con-way Freight's war room overlooking US-23, Chet Richardson, Keith Fisher, and Yafeng Du dispatch 6,000 trucks across North America. Du, a Thai-born programmer, says that calculating the best routes for the company's 60,000 daily shipments "was actually tougher than rocket science."

program again to start the drill for another 2,000 drivers in the western half of the country.

The LTL business is all about "velocity"—keeping shipments in motion instead of sitting in warehouses. Through the night, Con-way drivers roll, taking the fastest routes between assembly and distribution facilities, securing their company's role as an LTL industry leader.

Con-way Freight is the biggest local business that most Ann Arborites have never heard of. In 2009, it had more than \$2.5 billion in sales and \$50 million in operating revenue. It operates a fleet of more than 8,400 tractors and 25,000 trailers and employs more than 20,000 people, including 254 at its headquarters on Old Earhart Road.

"I think that we're one of the best-kept secrets in Ann Arbor!" laughs company president John Labrie. A Mount Pleasant native and Central Michigan graduate, he has worked his way up through the company, which is a subsidiary of California-based Con-way, Inc.

To most motorists, a tractor-trailer is simply a lumbering road elephant. But a large part of the economy rides in those big boxes on wheels. Most tractor-trailers

carry full loads of the same thing from one place to another—a shipment of wheel bearings, say, from a supplier to an automobile plant. CF's smaller corporate cousin, Con-way Truckload, hauls a fraction of those cargoes. Con-way Freight sticks to the trickier less-than-truckload business, filling its trailers with comingled shipments of wildly different items, from beverages to air compressors.

The LTL business was invented after the trucking industry was deregulated under Ronald Reagan. Con-way, Inc. started a regional carrier, Con-way Central Express, in Ann Arbor in 1983. With freeway access to Chicago and points west, to Toledo and the Ohio Turnpike and points east and south, Ann Arbor was an easy ride to many of the company's customers.

The company "focused on something new at the time in the freight markets: same-day service," says Labrie. Con-way later added LTL operations in the west and south, but for years the three regional carriers operated as separate entities, figuring out their nightly logistics puzzle manually—with regional supervisors relying heavily on their familiarity with local routes.

In 2007, the regional carriers were consolidated into Con-way Freight, and the geographical centrality of Ann Arbor made it the natural choice to be the head-

quarters. "Given its proximity to many universities and its large business community, Ann Arbor provides a great base for recruiting employees," adds Labrie. "The community and surrounding area have a strong population of highly educated and talented people."

And the state's struggling economy also has a silver lining for CF: "Because of what Michigan is going through," says Labrie, "there are a lot of really good people available."

Labrie, who has a bachelor's in finance from CMU and a master's in business from Indiana Wesleyan, worked in both the central and western divisions before taking over the combined firm in 2007. Since then, he's led the company's efforts to stay ahead of the competition—while also burnishing its credentials as one of the safest and most environmentally friendly trucking outfits.

At 9 a.m. on a snowy morning, Larry Porter grabs a stack of orders at Con-way Freight's warehouse in Whitmore Lake. He'll make deliveries this morning, pick up new shipments this afternoon, then get on a hi-lo to help load the trucks for tonight's runs.

Good-natured and gregarious, Porter looks like Charlie Brown grown up. "I like being outdoors, meeting and talking to people," he grins. And he likes figuring out how to efficiently tackle his routes, which spread up US-23 into Genesee County and out M-59 into the heart of Oakland County.

Though some truckers now use GPS, Porter, who lives in Howell, doesn't trust it, having heard too many horror stories of being badly misdirected by the onboard voice. Instead, he uses his local knowledge and road smarts to avoid traffic snarls and find shortcuts. If a location, like the Linden one today, is unfamiliar, he might check out MapQuest on an office computer before he steps into his cab. But the Internet has actually made his job more complicated.

That's because people order anything and everything online these days. Con-way's destinations include big and small companies in cities, business parks, and small towns, as well as home-based businesses and residential customers. Porter grimaces as he tells a story about the time he had to make a residential delivery down an unfamiliar road. Calling ahead, he told the home owner he was driving a fifty-three-foot-long rig. "No problem,"



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Con-way Freight is the biggest local business that most Ann Arborites have never heard of: it employs more than 20,000 people, including 254 at its Old Earhart Road headquarters. "Ann Arbor provides a great base for recruiting employees," says president John Labrie. "Because of what Michigan is going through, there are a lot of really good people available."

she assured him. "Trucks come by here all the time." She neglected to mention the ninety-degree turn a mile down the long, narrow road. Porter couldn't negotiate it. He had to use all the skills he'd learned in more than thirty years as a trucker to back all the way out.

Porter's a pro. If he could find the time someday, he'd like to try out for the Con-way team that competes each year in the state and national truck driving championships. "The company really takes care of those guys," he says. Last year three Con-way drivers won state truck driving championships, Con-way's Dale Duncan won the national title for the second time, and another driver was named national "Rookie of the Year." The company pays competitors' expenses and gives each winner a new Ford F-150 pickup.

The trucking competitions emphasize safety, a Con-way obsession. "Safety is our first core value," says Labrie. Each year, the company recognizes drivers who have gotten through the twelve months on the road with no accidents. There's more recognition when they log one million accident-free miles. That typically takes at least ten years of driving, yet in the company's history 1,500 employees have achieved this milestone. More than 100 of them have piled up two million safe miles.

All Con-way drivers are trained and critiqued in defensive driving sessions. The company puts a mechanical governor on all its trucks—and a few years ago dialed down the maximum speed to sixty-two miles per hour.

That decision, says Labrie, "grew out of a larger, companywide sustainability initiative." It's reduced Con-way Freight's annual fuel consumption by 3.6 million gallons, preventing 80 million pounds of

carbon emissions. Labrie stresses those figures, because he's keenly aware that "freight transportation, by its nature, is a significant consumer of carbon-based energy resources."

While worrying about safety, its carbon footprint, and keeping the delivery system efficient, CF also has to survive the recession. As the third-largest player in the LTL industry, it has felt the squeeze. The downturn, says Labrie, left "too many trailers chasing too little freight," forcing layoffs in late 2008. But CF re-engineered its network to increase efficiency and won business from competitors even as the economy contracted. "There is no doubt some of our market share gains reflect a 'flight to quality' on the part of customers who want to protect against any disruption in their supply chains," says Labrie.

"With the supply/demand imbalance that persists in our market, it's been tough to get our profits up where they need to be," Labrie admits. But he thinks the firm has weathered the worst of the storm.

The other thing that keeps Labrie up at night is the state of America's roads. "We have a major problem in this country: highways—and secondary roads too—are in horrible condition," he says. CF pays more than \$62 million in road taxes a year—and would be willing to pay more so long as the money gets to the places it's needed. "We have a flawed capital allocation process, and we are committing far too few resources in both the maintenance of the existing infrastructure and in meeting new infrastructure needs," Labrie says. "I think it is the one of the biggest issues facing the country today."

It's an issue that even Yafeng Du's genius computer program can't solve: the road to the future is paved with potholes.



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COURTESY BLAKE GUMPRECHT

Camelot, aka the University of Oklahoma.

"College towns are unlike other places, but that's a good thing."

—Blake Gumprecht,
The American College Town

You can't live in Ann Arbor long before someone tells you that the city is "twenty-eight square miles surrounded by reality." Sometimes it's said with pride, sometimes with embarrassment, but either way, it asserts the city's unique character. So it's a little deflating to learn that citizens of Boulder, Colorado, call their town "twenty-five square miles surrounded by reality." Residents of Austin, Texas; Iowa City, Iowa; Ithaca, New York; and Madison, Wisconsin, do the same changing only the number of miles.

That kind of reality check happens a lot reading *The American College Town*. Blake Gumprecht has written a field guide to the leafy, left-of-center places so many academics call home—yet no others had ever studied.

Gumprecht, fifty, chairs the geography department at the University of New Hampshire. A former music label rep, librarian, and reporter, he's a little leafy and left-of-center himself: he seems most engaged when writing about the progressive politicians who made Davis, California, a beacon of recycling and bicycling, and creative outsiders like the late Athens, Georgia, musician Vic Chesnutt. But he's also a diligent scholar who identified more than 300 college towns, visited 150, and researched sixty before selecting eight to profile in his book.

Towns shaped by higher education, Gumprecht argues, are a distinctly American phenomenon. European universities usually were founded in large cities where students and faculty made up only a small percentage of the population. From Harvard on, in contrast, American college founders preferred smaller settings—"sequestered," in the words of Princeton's first trustees, "from the various temptations attending the promiscuous converse with the world."

The towns that grew up around America's colleges, Gumprecht writes,

ISLAND HOPPING

A new book maps the culture of college towns.

By John Hilton

have more in common with one another than with their urban neighbors. They're better educated, of course, but also younger, more transient, more expensive, and more cosmopolitan. "In college towns like Ann Arbor," he writes, "public radio listenership is so high that conversations around the water cooler are more likely to be about what people heard on *Morning Edition* than *The Howard Stern Show*."

Gumprecht sees college towns as an "academic archipelago" within American society. A happy island dweller himself, he describes arriving in Norman, Oklahoma, where he lived with his then-wife and young son in the 1990s while earning his PhD at the University of Oklahoma:

The drive from Oklahoma City to Norman is obscene in its tackiness. Once we exited Interstate 55, however, we drove east toward campus, the houses grew older and the tree cover thicker. By the time we reached home, it felt like Camelot. College towns, even ones as conservative as Norman, are comfortable yet cosmopolitan. Norman was equally tolerant of cowboys, storm chasers, and Rudolph Anaya theorists of ambiguous sexuality. I could get into an argument in a bar about almost anything....I could see the number one-ranked college football team in America five minutes from my door or hear a singer from the Metropolitan Opera. But I could also lie on a campus lawn with my son and watch the clouds drift by or wade knee-deep in a river with nobody else around....Nowhere but in a college town could I find such a mix of sophistication and simplicity."

Ann Arborite has said it better. But Gumprecht also turns a geographer's analytical eye on the towns he loves, particularly at how their neighborhoods reflect their social structure. College towns, he points out, "are highly segregated residentially"—while adding quickly that it's a voluntary and entirely understandable division: "Faculty and other long-term residents seldom want to live near students because of the different lifestyles they often lead." Quiet reading and writing clash with all-night beer pong parties next door.

Every college town, it seems, has an academic neighborhood like Burns Park and a student ghetto of beat-up rental housing. And it's not just in Ann Arbor that the residents' conflicting lifestyles turn the boundary between the two into a political battleground.

Gumprecht admits he almost eliminated the chapter set in Ann Arbor. Titled "High-Tech Valhalla," its focus is university-driven economic development—a subject he found demoralizing.

Ann Arbor's debate a few years ago about limiting rental conversions in South Burns Park, it turns out, was minor compared to the decades-long power struggle in Newark, Delaware. Gumprecht describes how a home owner-dominated city council progressed from limiting the number of people allowed to share a rental unit (eventually settling on three, half Ann Arbor's limit) to requiring eviction of tenants repeatedly convicted of noise offenses or disorderly conduct. When that failed to stem the tide of University of Delaware students moving out from campus, he writes, the city passed "an ordinance that prohibited new student rentals within a specified distance (usually 500 feet) of existing student rentals in single-family neighborhoods."

While moving legally to limit the student ghetto, Newark, like Ann Arbor, also pressed the university to build more housing, and approved large new apartment buildings close to campus. Reflecting similar pressures and opportunities around the country, Newark's University Courtyard complex was created by the same national company that last year opened the Courtyards on Plymouth Road in Ann

Arbor—reusing both the name and the architectural style.

Because they face so many of the same issues, politics in other college towns often plays out as a sort of alternative political reality. In both Ann Arbor and Boulder, for instance, city leaders tried to ban old couches from student front porches—but while Ann Arbor's effort failed, Boulder's passed.

What made the difference? For one thing, U-M students mobilized effectively to fight what they saw as an encroachment on their way of life. For another, students at the University of Colorado inadvertently promoted the law by repeatedly dragging couches into the street during post-game celebrations—and setting them on fire.

As enthusiastic as is he when writing about other places, Gumprecht admits he almost eliminated the chapter set in Ann Arbor. Titled "High-Tech Valhalla," its focus is university-driven economic development—a subject he found demoralizing. "I recognize the importance of economics to understanding places," he explains, "but I hate money and what it does to us."

Gumprecht stopped by the Observer when he came to town doing research in 2001. Even then, he was disappointed in what he was seeing. It turned out he'd come into town from the south, through the generic commercial area around Briarwood.

"High-Tech Valhalla" begins with an extended account of that trip. Starting in the office parks and shopping centers on I-94, he passes through central campus, then moves on to the north side. Shadowed by security vehicles as he walks the boundaries of the Pfizer complex, he grows dispirited: "High-tech Ann Arbor," he writes, "is your punk rock buddy who grew up and went to work for a bank."

By the time the book was published, of course, the punk-rock buddy was out of work: Pfizer had closed its entire complex, eliminating 3,200 jobs. Ann Arbor's one great example of university-driven economic development was gone.

Gumprecht couldn't help the timing. Still, he won no fans in the economic development establishment by including a persuasive explanation of why college towns, for all their intellectual power, rarely spawn major companies: U-M grad "Larry Page could have started Google in Ann Arbor," he writes, "but it is doubtful the company could have recruited enough workers there to grow as fast as it did."

In an email last spring, Gumprecht lamented that his book had elicited "zero media attention" in Ann Arbor. But with Pfizer's sale to the university, Ann Arbor is more emphatically a college town than ever—and that makes *The American College Town* that much more timely. If Gumprecht's insightful and candid study undercuts Ann Arbor's self-image as a unique place, it replaces it with something richer and more realistic: the kinship of an extended, widely scattered, and somewhat eccentric family.

Q:
Who can
post events
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online events
calendar?

GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

President Ford's First 100 Days **BENTON**
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Wednesday, March 10
7:30 P.M.

Join Benton Becker, key advisor to President Ford, as he revisits the 1974 pardon of Richard Nixon and the disposition of the famous Nixon tapes and papers.



SHARON *Presidential Libraries and Museums in the 21st Century*
FAWCETT

Wednesday, March 24
7:30 P.M.

Join Sharon Fawcett, Head of the National Archives system of 13 Presidential Libraries, as she discusses the past and future of these unique and sometimes controversial cultural institutions.

A Survivor's Journey from
Cambodia's
Killing Fields to U.S. Diplomat

Monday, March 29
7:30 P.M.

When Vietnam and Cambodia fell 35 years ago this spring, speaker Sichan Siv endured the Khmer Rouge slave labor camps, escaped, resettled as a refugee, and later became an ambassador to the U.N. His 2008 memoir *Golden Bones* is "gripping...always compelling." Book sale and signing.

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Christian Rohlf, *Female Nude Lying on Stomach (detail)*, 1911; tempera and ink on brown paper. Gift of the Ernst Pulgram and Frances McSparran Collection, 2007.2.107.

A:
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The area's most comprehensive events calendar is about to get even bigger and better. Because starting this month, readers like you can enter their own events, right online. It's fast, it's easy, and it's a great way to get the word out, whether your event is big or small, local or out of town. Color-coding and easy-to-read icons make it clear whether an event has been posted by a reader or our editors.

So go online—and get the word out!

arborweb.com

An up-to-date calendar of events.
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March Events

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By mail:** John Hinckley, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
- **By fax:** 769-3375
- **By email:** hinck@aaobserver.com
- **After-hours drop box:** right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:

The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available at **arborweb:** www.arborweb.com. This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

1 MONDAY

★**Winter Democratic Rides:** Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Daily. The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. Note: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, and snacks. 10 a.m. (daily) & 1 p.m. (Sat. & Sun. only), meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 761-6253 (morning ride), 994-5908 (afternoon ride).

★**Monday Club:** Ann Arbor Salvation Army. Every Mon. Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & over. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, Bible study and chair exercises. Followed by lunch (bring a bag lunch) and socializing. 10 a.m.-noon, Salvation Army, 100 Armana. Free. 668-8353.

★**Weekly Rehearsal:** Women's Chamber Chorus. Every Mon. All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. 10-11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors (\$100 per semester dues for those who join). (586) 504-1155, 769-0784.

U-M Club of Ann Arbor. Mar. 1 & 8. Lunchtime talks by U-M athletes and athletic coaches and staff members. Mar. 1: associate athletic director Judy Van Horn and men's basketball coach John Beilein. Mar. 8: former U-M basketball player C.J. Lee, softball coach Carol Hutchins, and assistant men's basketball coach John Mahoney. 11:30 a.m., Webster's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$19 (members, \$14.25; seniors, \$13.75), includes lunch. 649-8816.

Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Mon. All seniors age 55 & over invited to play. Bring a partner. Also, at 1 p.m., mah-jongg (free). 12:45-4 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2. 769-5911.

★**Bridge:** U-M Turner Senior Resource Center. Every Mon. & Fri. All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★**ESL Conversation Group:** Ann Arbor District Library. Every Mon. & Fri. All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. 1-2:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch (Mon.), 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., & AADL



Performance Network presents Joseph Zettelmaier's off-the-wall play *It Came from Mars* every Thursday through Sunday ending March 21.

FILMS

30 Film Screenings

John Hinckley & Katie Whitney

GALLERIES

47 Exhibit Openings

UMMA: "The Eye of the Beholder"

Katie Whitney

Grant Mandarino

EVENTS REVIEWS

35 Scythian

Roots dance party

James M. Manheim

39 Andrew Kratzat Quartet

Off the beaten path

Sandor Slomovits

51 Randy Weston's African Rhythms Trio

Marrakesh and back

Piotr Michalowski

55 Thomas Lynch

The heart's unspeakable cargo

Keith Taylor

61 Harpsichordist Ed Parmentier

Tackling the Italians

James Leonard

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

66 Nightspots

Gas for Less

John Hinckley

Charmie Gholson

Malletts Creek Branch (Fri.), 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard. Free. 327-4200.

★**"A Course in Miracles":** Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. Every Mon. All invited to read from and discuss this popular Foundation for Inner Peace metaphysical book. Also, local social worker Lorraine Coburn leads a study group on the book, every Thurs., noon-1:30 p.m. 6:45-8:45 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Donation. 327-0270.

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus.** Every Mon. Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. 7-9:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. 973-6084.

★**"Planning an Herb Garden":** Herb Study Group. Talk by a speaker TBA. 7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663-8303.

★**"The Art of the 2010 Ann Arbor Women Artists Exhibition":** Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by EMU art professor and fiber artist Brooks Harris Stevens, followed by discussion. Also, announcement of the winners of the annual exhibit, currently on display at the library (see Galleries). 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**"Impact of Factory Farms on the Environment and Rural Communities."** EMU creative writing professor emerita Janet Kauffman discusses her experience living near a CAFO (concentrated animal feeding operation). Her 2008 book *Trespassing: Dirt Stories and Field Notes* is a collection of environmental essays and short stories about factory farming. 7 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. at Ellsworth. Free. 476-2481.

★**Large Ensemble Meeting:** Ann Arbor Recorder Society. All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Tim Tikker. Music provided; bring your own music stand. 7:30-9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues for those who join). 213-3172.

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Mar. 1, 8, 15, & 22. Instruction in wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-sole shoes recommended. 7:30-9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver Rd. (off Nixon Rd.). \$5. 769-1052.

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. Every Mon. Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. 8:30-11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$5 team fee. 665-2968.

2 TUESDAY

★**Social Bridge:** Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Tues. & Wed. All seniors age 50 & over invited to play bridge. No partner required. Also, Tues. at 10 a.m., Scrabble. 9:30 a.m.-noon (Tues.) & 12:45-4 p.m. (Wed.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★**"Making Merry with Mother Goose":** Ann Arbor District Library. Local storyteller Trudy Bulkley presents a program of Mother Goose rhymes and stories for kids ages 2-5. 10-10:30 a.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**"The Bible in Its Time: The Prophets in Their World":** Jewish Community Center. Every Tues., Feb. 2-Mar. 23. Lecture series by U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies visiting scholar Lisbeth Fried. 10 a.m.-noon, JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

★**Dr. Seuss Birthday Party:** Barnes & Noble. Kids invited for a Dr. Seuss storytime featuring *Green Eggs and Ham*. 11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1816.

★**Jewish Older Adults:** Jewish Community Center. Every Tues. Activities begin at 11 a.m. with "Energy Exercise" (\$4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar, followed at 1 p.m. by mah-jongg, bridge and other card games, board games, Wii sports, and quilting and other craft projects. Also, at 1:30 p.m., Yiddish Tish, a Yiddish conversation group. Homemade buffet luncheon (\$3) available at noon. All invited. 11 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971-0990.

★**Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor:** AnnArbor.com publisher Laurel Champion discusses the website and newspaper and its plans for the future. All women who have recently moved or returned to



March 2010 Event Highlights

Ann Arbor District Library



All events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---|
| Monday | 1 | The Art of the 2010 Ann Arbor Women Artists' Exhibition with EMU art professor and fiber artist Brooks Harris Stevens |
| Tuesday | 2 | Film: The Garden (NOT RATED) • A look at the famous political and social battle over a community garden in South Central L.A. |
| Thursday | 4 | Putting Islamic Finance in a Western Perspective with UM visiting scholar Yousef K. Al-Yousef |
| Sunday | 7 | Preschool Expo • Choosing a preschool? Get information from representatives from many local preschools • PALMER COMMONS, 100 WASHTENAW AVE. (ON THE UM CAMPUS) |
| Wednesday | 10 | Love The One You're With: Architecture & Urbanism in Detroit with Michael Hodges , art and architecture writer at <i>The Detroit News</i> |
| Friday | 12 | School of Hard Knocks: Funny and Insightful Tales for Adults with Laura Pershin Raynor and Josie Barnes Parker |
| Sunday | 14 | A Sneak Peek Into the Future of UMS's Past: 100 Years of Concert Programs and Photographs with UMS President Ken Fischer |
| Tuesday | 16 | Who Is Wynton Marsalis? • Jazz expert Linda Yohn explores the modern-day legend and UMS performer |
| Tuesday | 16 | Colon Cancer: What Are The Risks? • Russell D. Keinath, MD and Danielle K. Turgeon, MD discuss colorectal cancer
MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH |
| Thursday | 18 | Film & Discussion: Prom Night in Mississippi (NOT RATED) A post-film discussion will be led by director Paul Saltzman
GRADE 9 - ADULT |
| Friday | 19 | Ann Arbor Film Festival Event • The Early Films of Jimm Juback & Cary Loren discussed by Mike Mosher , Associate Professor, Saginaw Valley State University |
| Saturday | 20 | Film: Journey Into America (NOT RATED) • A Muslim professor sets out to discover America with a team of young Americans |
| Sunday | 21 | An Afternoon of Jazz with the Bob Sweet Trio • Enjoy music distinctly flavored with the soul of the Detroit jazz tradition |
| Monday | 22 | Who Is Anton Chekhov? with Michael Makin , UM Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, and Kate Mendeloff , UM Residential College Drama Lecturer |
| Tuesday | 23 | Bright Nights™ Community Forum • Depression After 60: Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment with Sara Wright, PhD , UM Dept. of Psychiatry and UM Depression Center |
| Wednesday | 24 | Diagnosis & Treatment of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Across the Lifespan with experts from UM Dept. of Psychiatry |
| Friday | 26 | Ann Arbor Film Festival Event • Gerry Fialka discusses Dream Awake: How James Joyce Invented Experimental Cinema and Disguised It as a Book |
| Tuesday | 30 | Women's History Month Concert • A Tribute to Women Singers, Songwriters and Musicians Throughout History with Mary Rademacher and Tom and Cherie Hagen |

For more information, call 327.4200 or visit our website at aadl.org

film fest

48th Annual Ann Arbor Film Festival

Tickets: \$95 (students & members, \$80) for the entire festival & \$55 (students & members, \$45) for weekend passes in advance at ticketleap.com, and \$9 (students, seniors, & members; \$7) per show at the door. 995-5356. Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), various times. The festival also sponsors an interactive program at the library (see "Dream Awake" 26 Friday Events listing). See "Filtering the Film Festival," p. 11.

Mar. 23: **Opening Night.** The oldest and one of the most prestigious film festivals in North America kicks off tonight with an gala reception (\$30; members, \$20; screening only, \$9) with an open bar, food, and music spun by DJ Juzituk. Followed by screenings of independent short films TBA.

Mar. 24: "Ben Russell." Short films by this festival judge. FREE. 1-4 p.m. "Time Machine." Interactive media performance by filmmakers Bill Brown and Sabine Gruffat. UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium (525 S. State). FREE. 5-6 p.m. "Films in Competition." The competition showcases new experimental and independent 16-mm, 35-mm, and digital films and videos in a wide range of genres and of generally high quality—past contributors have included Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, and Brian De Palma. 7 & 9:30 p.m. "Daniel Barrow." Live animation projected onto the big screen by this Winnipeg artist whose emotionally intense work evokes children's book illustrations. 7:30 p.m. "LUX." New European avant-garde short films. 10 p.m.

Mar. 25: "Tomonari Nishikawa." Short films by this festival judge. FREE. 1 p.m. "Film Jam." Short films by local amateur filmmakers. FREE. 3:30 p.m. "Films in Competition." See above. Tonight: short LGBT films (7 p.m.), short films TBA (9:30 p.m.), and a feature-length narrative film TBA (10 p.m.). "Nicky Hamlyn." Retrospective of work by this internationally renowned experimental filmmaker. Followed by a Q&A with Hamlyn. 7:30 p.m.

Mar. 26: "Chick Strand." Retrospective of work by this pioneering ethnographic filmmaker who died last year. Introduced by festival judge Irina Leimbacher. FREE. 1 p.m. "Tomorrow's Obsolescence." Panel discussion about short film distribution in the digital age. UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium (525 S. State). FREE. 3:30 p.m. "Music Video Showcase." Music videos in competition. UMMA (see above). FREE. 5 p.m. "Heaven and Earth Magic." California hip-hop artist Flying Lotus performs live to a background of 1950s animation. 7 p.m. "Films in Competition." See above. Tonight: films TBA (7:30 p.m.) and animated shorts (9:30 p.m.). "Naomi Uman." Screening of films from this experimental filmmaker's *Ukrainian Time Machine* series of 16-mm documentaries that explore the quotidian experiences of Ukrainian villagers. Followed by a Q&A with Uman. 10 p.m. "The Room" (Tommy Wiseau, 2003). Dark comedy about a successful banker who's about to be married, until he finds out the horrible truth about his fiancée. State Theatre. \$6. Midnight.

Mar. 27: "Kid-Friendly Films in Competition." Shorts appropriate for kids age 6 & over. Also, a silent Frank Pahl film with a live music score. 11 a.m. "Films in Competition." See above. Today: shorts and/or feature-length films TBA (1, 3:30, 5, 7:30, 9:30, & 10 p.m.). Also, a film program TBA (12:30 p.m.). "Pavel Medvedev." Program TBA. 3 p.m. "Kenneth Anger." Tribute screening, sponsored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, of works by this legendary avant-garde filmmaker known for his surrealism and erotic and occult themes. Followed by a discussion with Anger. 7 p.m. "The Room." See above. Midnight.

Mar. 28: "What the Hell Was That?" Screenings of experimental films from this year's competition. Discussion. UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium (525 S. State). FREE. Noon. "Films in Competition." See above. Today: feature-length films (1 & 3 p.m.). "Chick Strand." See above. 1:30 p.m. "Kenneth Anger." See above. 3:30 p.m. "Awarded Films Program." Screening of the festival competition winners. 6 & 8 p.m.

Screenings

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor District Library. Free. 327-4555. AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave.

Mar. 2: "The Garden" (Scott Hamilton Kennedy, 2008). Oscar-nominated documentary about the plight of the farmers who created and worked on a 14-acre community garden in South Central L.A. in the wake of the 1992 riots—a site the city later sold to a wealthy developer. 7-8:30 p.m.

Mar. 18: "Prom Night in Mississippi" (Paul Saltzman, 2009). Award-winning documentary about the 2008 senior prom at Charleston (MS) High School, which actor Morgan Freeman funded after the school board—which had rejected an identical offer in 1997—agreed the prom would be racially integrated. Followed by a discussion led by director Saltzman. For adults & teens in grade 9 & up. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Mar. 20: "Journey into America" (Craig Considine, 2009). Award-winning documentary about Akbar Ahmed, a prominent American University Islamic studies professor who sets out with a team of researchers to explore post-9/11 America by visiting more than 70 cities and 100 mosques. 2-3:45 p.m.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. \$5 suggested donation. 327-0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Mar. 13: "Spiritual Cinema." Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994-3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

Mar. 26: "What the Bleep Do We Know?" (William Arntz and Betsy Chasse, 2004). Quasidocumentary fantasy about a young woman who is introduced to the fantastical Wonderland of quantum physics as her quotidian identity unravels. Roger Ebert likens it to a "collision in the editing room between talking heads, an impenetrable human parable, and a hallucinogenic animated cartoon." Followed by discussion. Food concessions.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668-TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): \$9 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$7; MTF members, \$6.50; Wed., \$6). Michigan Theater, times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Through Mar. 11: "The Last Station" (Michael Hoffman, 2009). Biopic about Tolstoy's final year and his troubled marriage. Christopher Plummer, Helen Mirren.

Mar. 1: "Pather Panchali" (Satyajit Ray, 1955). A rural 1920s Bengali family struggles to overcome poverty. Bengali, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Mar. 3: "Bridging the Gap: the Joe Dulin Story" (2008) Documentary about the recently retired Ann Arbor school administrator, filmed over a 3-year period at Roberto Clemente High School. 7 p.m.

Mar. 7: "An American Tail" (Don Bluth, 1986). Animated musical about immigrant Russian Jewish mice that believe there are no cats in America. Kids age 12 & under, FREE. 1:30 p.m.

Mar. 8: "The 39 Steps" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1935). Classic thriller about an innocent man pulled into a spy ring. 7 p.m.

Mar. 10: 2nd Annual Ann Arbor Palestine Film Festival. Several days of film screenings (for complete schedule, see a2palestinefilmfest.org.) begin tonight with "Pomegranates and Myrrh," Najwa Najjar's 2008 drama about a Palestinian dancer who struggles to keep up with her dancing after her husband is imprisoned in an Israeli jail for refusing to give up his land. \$9, 7:30 p.m.

Mar. 12-18: "Fish Tank" (Andrea Arnold, 2009). British drama about a 15-year-old girl whose world changes when her mom gets a new boyfriend.

Mar. 15: "Wild Strawberries" (Ingmar Bergman, 1957). An elderly academic is plagued by dreams about his past that expose the emptiness of his life. Swedish, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Mar. 17: "Amistad" (Steven Spielberg, 1997). Gripping tale of the legal battle over a mutiny on a slave ship. Morgan Freeman, Anthony Hopkins. Sponsored by the U-M Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. FREE. 6 p.m.

Mar. 19-22: "A Town Called Panic" (Stephane Aubier & Vincent Patar, 2009). Animation about plastic toys who travel to a parallel underwater universe where panic is a permanent feature of life.

Mar. 19: "Millers Creek Film Festival." Short films by local residents that detail the connection between people and Millers Creek, which runs to the Huron River south from Thurston Pond and is called "the smallest and most dramatic creek in the Huron River system." Homemade cookies. FREE. 4:30 p.m.

Mar. 22: "The Bicycle Thief" (Vittorio De Sica, 1948). Classic drama about a poor Italian worker and his young son who spend a day desperately searching for the stolen bicycle on which they depend for their livelihood. Italian, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Mar. 29: "The Rules of the Game" (Jean Renoir, 1939). Classic romantic comedy with a satiric edge. French, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Mar. 29-31: "Red Riding Trilogy" (Julian Jarrold, James Marsh, and Anand Tucker, 2009). Three thrillers about a serial killer set in northern England in the 70s and 80s.

Mar. 31: "Concrete, Steel & Paint" (Cindy Burstein & Tony Heriza, 2009). Documentary about prisoners in an art class who collaborate with crime victims to design a mural about healing. Sponsored by the U-M Prison Creative Arts Project. \$8. 7 p.m.

Projectorhead/U-M Screen Arts & Cultures. FREE. 615-0445. U-M Museum of Art Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State, 7 p.m.

Mar. 18: "Roger and Me." Academy Award-winning filmmaker Michael Moore—best known for his controversial left-wing documentaries *Bowling for Columbine*, *Fahrenheit 9/11*, and *Sicko*—screens and discusses his 1989 documentary about the disastrous economic impact on Flint of the closure of a GM plant.

U-M Center for Chinese Studies. Chinese Documentary Film Series. FREE. 764-6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A (entrance at the Fishbowl on the east side of the bldg.), 7 p.m. Mandarin, subtitles.

Mar. 13: "Morning Sun" (Carma Hinton, Geremie Barme, & Richard Gordon, 2003). Documentary about the Cultural Revolution as seen through the eyes of members of the generation that came of age in the 60s.

Mar. 20: "Two Million Minutes" (Chad Heeter, 2008). Documentary about 6 engaging students—from China, India, or the U.S.—as they work through their final year of secondary school.

U-M Center for the Education of Women. FREE. Preregistration required at cew.umich.edu.

764-6005. SSWB Educational Conference Center (1080 South University), 3 p.m.

Mar. 22: "Passing the Torch." Documentary narrated by Lily Tomlin about Detroit area feminists active during the women's movement of the 60s and 70s.

U-M Center for Faith and Scholarship. FREE. 668-7421. Campus Chapel, 1236 Washtenaw Ct., 8 p.m.

Mar. 27: "Star Trek" (J.J. Abrams, 2009). Fantasy sci-fi flick that chronicles the early days of the starship Enterprise.

U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. FREE. 764-0350. 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University, Noon.

Mar. 8: "Caught Between Two Worlds" (Simin Farkhodeh & Persheng Sadegh-Vaziri, 2007). Documentary about Iranians living in the U.S.

Mar. 15: "The Noble Struggle of Amina Wadud" (Elli Safari, 2006). Short documentary about an African American Muslim woman who shocked the Islamic world by leading a mixed-gender prayer service.

Mar. 22: "The Letter" (Ziad Hamzeh, 2003). Documentary about the Lewiston, ME, mayor who sent a letter to recently arrived Somali refugees asking that no other Somalis move to the city.

Mar. 29: "Lunch with Bokara: The Heart of Islam" (Stephen Olsson, 2005). Short documentary in which journalist Bokara Legembre interviews a Moroccan Sufi about Sufi beliefs and practices, including justice, the veil, and "divine intoxication."

U-M Center for South Asian Studies. FREE. 615-4059. 1636 SSWB (1080 South University), 6:30 p.m.

Mar. 11: "Videsh: A Heaven on Earth" (Deepa Mehta, 2008). Drama about an Indian immigrant to Canada who fantasizes about an ideal husband when she finds herself in an abusive arranged marriage. Punjabi, subtitles.

Mar. 18: "Sita Sings the Blues" (Nina Paley, 2008). Animated retelling of the Indian epic Ramaiana with a feminist spin.

U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. U-M campus admission policy: No one under 18 admitted without an adult. FREE. umichanime.com. MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer, 10 a.m.-midnight.

Mar. date TBA: "Animania." Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from TV series.

U-M Library. FREE. 615-7876. 100 Hatcher Graduate Library (enter from the Diag), 7 p.m.

Mar. 17: "The Ghost Army" (Rick Beyer, 2009). Screening of a rough cut of this documentary about WW II soldiers whose mission was to deceive the Germans about the location and strength of American troops using inflatable tanks and sound effects records. Followed by a talk by the director.

UMMA. FREE. 763-8662. UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State, different times.

Mar. 5, 7, 12, 19, 21, 26, & 28: "Herb and Dorothy." Documentary about postal clerk Herb Vogel and librarian Dorothy Vogel, who built a huge contemporary art collection with their modest income. In conjunction with the current exhibit *The Dorothy and Herbert Vogel Collection: Fifty Works for Fifty States*. 3 p.m. (Sun.) & 9:30 p.m. (Fri.).

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763-3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 8:30 p.m. **Mar. 10: "Magical Mystery Tour"** (Bernard Knowles & the Beatles, 1967). The Beatles' whimsical TV musical.

the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area invited. Coffee, tea, & dessert served. Preceded at 11:30 a.m. by lunch (preregistration required by Feb. 26). 12:30 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. Free. Low-cost child care arrangements available in advance only. 834-2775.

Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band. Every Tues. Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger. Cash bar; limited sandwich menu. 6-9 p.m. (doors open at 4 p.m.), Zal Gaz Grotto, 2070 W. Stadium. \$10 at the door only. 663-1202.

Craft Night: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited for socializing while working on their knitting, embroidery, stitching, or crochet project. Cookies & hot tea (\$3.75 includes refills).

6:30-8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

***"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** Every Tues. All knitters invited to work on their current projects and swap knitting tips. 6:30-8:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 945-3035.

***Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *Una Sencilla Melodia Habanera*, Oscar Hijuelos's novel about the emotional trials of a Cuban composer. 6:45 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Wisconsin. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$15 & \$22. 764-0247.

***Common Thread Knitters Club.** Mar. 2 & 16. All knitters invited to meet members of this local

knitting group and exchange tips. 7 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

***Ann Arbor Area Writers Group.** Every Tues. All local writers invited to bring samples of their writing to read and discuss. Observers welcome. 7-9 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 665-8194.

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Every Tues. Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. 7-9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). \$7 (students, \$4; children age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665-7704.

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Support the library and get a great deal on gently used books

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10-4 SAT & 1-4 SUN

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follow animal tracks • build a shelter hike • invent a science experiment • say hello to an eagle



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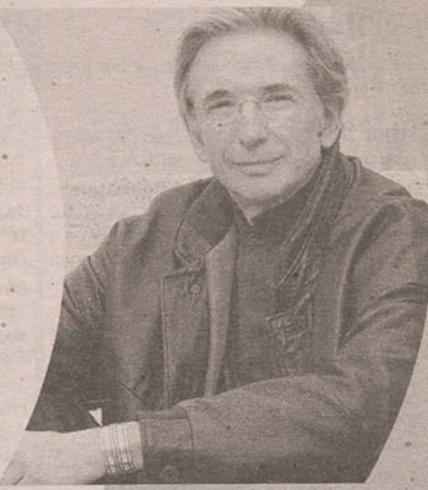


One-Hour Family Performances! Cyro Baptista's Beat the Donkey

Sat, Mar 13 | 1 PM & 4 PM
POWER CENTER

Kids of all ages will go wild for Brazilian percussionist Cyro Baptista's Beat the Donkey and their wild costumes, torrid rhythms and spontaneous dance. Baptista directs the group's bewitching brew of untamed percussion, samba, jazz, tap dance, martial arts, rock and funk with fiendish glee. A little piece of Brazilian Carnaval!

THE 09/10 FAMILY SERIES IS SPONSORED BY **TOYOTA**
MEDIA PARTNER **WEMU 89.1 FM**.



MARCH EVENTS



Takács Quartet

Mon, Mar 15 | 8 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM
Beethoven String Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 18, No. 6 (1789-1800)
Psathas A Cool Wind (2008)
Beethoven String Quartet in F Major, Op. 59, No. 1 (1806)

SPONSORED BY **EDWARD SUROVELL REALTORS**
MEDIA PARTNER **WGTE 91.3 FM**.



Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis

Wed, Mar 17 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

The incomparable trumpeter Wynton Marsalis leads the Jazz at Lincoln Center big band in selections from band member Ted Nash's new jazz suite entitled *Portrait in Seven Shades* as well as other repertoire, including tunes by Count Basie, Mary Lou Williams and more.

CO-SPONSORED BY RACHEL BENDIT AND MARK BERNSTEIN, CARL AND CHARLENE HERSTEIN AND **MC3**

MEDIA PARTNERS **WEMU 89.1 FM, METRO TIMES, ANN ARBOR'S 107ONE, AND MICHIGAN CHRONICLE**.



San Francisco Symphony

Michal Tilson Thomas conductor
Christan Tetzlaff violin

Fri, Mar 19 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM
Kissine Post-scriptum (2010)
Tchaikovsky Violin Concert in D Major, Op. 35 (1878)
Ravel Valses nobles et sentimentales (1912)
Liszt Symphonic Poem No. 2: Tasso – Lament and Triumph, S. 96 (1849)

Sponsored by **KeyBank**

CO-SPONSORED BY THE CATHERINE S. ARCIURE AND HERBERT E. SLOAN ENDOWMENT FUND, JAMES AND NANCY STANLEY, AND JAY AND MARY KATE ZELENOK.

FUNDED IN PART BY THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS AS PART OF AMERICAN MASTERPIECES: THREE CENTURIES OF ARTISTIC GENIUS.

MEDIA PARTNERS **WGTE 91.3 FM AND WRCJ 90.9 FM**.



131st Season UMS 09|10

San Francisco Symphony Ford Honors Program

UMS Choral Union
Michael Tilson Thomas conductor
Laura Claycomb soprano
Katarina Karnéus mezzo-soprano

Sat, Mar 20 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

Long regarded as an important interpreter of Mahler's works, Michael Tilson Thomas conducts the San Francisco Symphony in Mahler's evening-length Symphony No. 2, featuring Ann Arbor's own Grammy Award-winning UMS Choral Union. The SFS and MTT will be presented with the 2010 UMS Distinguished Artist Award in a brief ceremony at the beginning of the concert.

PROGRAM:
Mahler Symphony No. 2 in c minor ("Resurrection") (1888-94)

MADE POSSIBLE IN PART BY  Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE MOSAIC FOUNDATION (OF R. AND P. HEYDON), RANDALL AND MARY PITTMAN AND FOREST HEALTH SERVICES, THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH SYSTEM, AND RANI KOTHA AND HOWARD HU.

MEDIA PARTNER: WGTE 91.3 FM

Chekov's Uncle Vanya Maly Drama Theater of St. Petersburg

Lev Dodin artistic director

Wed, Mar 24	[STUDENT PERFORMANCE]
Thu-Sat, Mar 25-27	8 PM
Sun, Mar 28	2 PM

POWER CENTER

The legendary Maly Drama Theater of St. Petersburg performs Anton Chekov's tragicomic masterpiece of dashed dreams, thwarted love, and eternal longing. Lev Dodin, artistic director of the company since 1983, directs this definitive interpretation, complete with costumes inspired by the very first performance of the play by the Moscow Arts Theater in 1899. In Russian with projected English translations.

THE UMS PRESENTATION OF THE MALY DRAMA THEATER IS SPONSORED BY THE MAXINE AND STUART FRANKEL FOUNDATION.

THE SATURDAY PERFORMANCE IS SUPPORTED BY THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND.

THE SUNDAY PERFORMANCE IS SUPPORTED BY PARTICIPANTS OF THE 2002 SHAKESPEARE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION TRIP.

MEDIA PARTNERS: BETWEEN THE LINES AND MICHIGAN RADIO 91.7 FM.

Solo Violin Works of J.S. Bach Julia Fischer violin

Wed-Thu, Mar 24-25 | 8 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM (WED 3/24)

J.S. Bach Sonata No. 1 in g minor, BWV 1001 (1720)
J.S. Bach Sonata No. 2 in a minor, BWV 1003 (1720)
J.S. Bach Sonata No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1005 (1720)

PROGRAM (THU 3/25)

J.S. Bach Partita No. 3 in E Major, BWV 1006 (1720)
J.S. Bach Partita No. 1 in b minor, BWV 1002 (1720)
J.S. Bach Partita No. 2 in d minor, BWV 1004 (1720)

MEDIA PARTNERS: WGTE 91.3 FM AND WRCJ 90.9 FM.



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HOURS: Mon-Fri: 9 am to 5 pm Sat: 10 am to 1 pm

ENGAGE OFF STAGE: PERCUSSION

Sat, Mar 13 | 11:30 AM - 12:40 PM & 2:30 - 3:40 PM

POWER CENTER LOBBY

Note: Must have a ticket to a Cyro Baptista performance to attend

A SNEAK PEEK INTO THE FUTURE OF UMS'S PAST: 100 YEARS OF CONCERT PROGRAMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS ONLINE

Ken Fischer, UMS President

Sun, Mar 14 | 2 PM

ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY

SCREENING OF POETRY IN MOTION: 100 YEARS OF ZANZIBAR'S NADI IKHWAN SAFAA

Tue, Mar 16 | 7 PM

U-M BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH BUILDING AUDITORIUM

"WHO IS...?" SERIES: WYNTON MARSALIS

Linda Yohn, Music Director and On-Air Host WEMU 89.1 FM

Tue, Mar 16 | 7 PM

ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY

ENGAGING YOUNG AUDIENCES IN CLASSICAL MUSIC

With musicians from the San Francisco Symphony

Sat, Mar 20 | 2 PM

U-M BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH BUILDING AUDITORIUM

SCREENING OF KEEPING SCORE

John Kieser, General Manager, San Francisco Symphony

Sat, Mar 20 | 4 PM

WALGREEN DRAMA CENTER, PENNY STAMPS AUDITORIUM

CONDUCTING MASTER CLASS

With Michael Tilson Thomas

Sun, Mar 21 | 10 AM

REVELLI HALL

"WHO IS...?" SERIES: ANTON CHEKHOV

Michael Makin, Associate Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, U-M College of Literature, Science and the Arts
Katherine Mendeloff, Lecturer, U-M Residential College and U-M College of Literature, Science and the Arts

Mon, Mar 22 | 7 PM

ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY

ARTIST INTERVIEW: Lev Dodin, Artistic Director of The Maly Drama Theatre Of St. Petersburg

Fri, Mar 26 | 6:30 AM

U-M ALUMNI CENTER

MASTERPIECES REVEALED: BACH'S PARTITAS

Paula Muldoon, Violinist and U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance Alumna

Tue, Mar 23 | 7 PM

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EDUCATION EVENTS

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★**Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines.** Every Tues. All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 40-member barbershop harmony chorus. 7-10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$20 monthly dues for those who join). 480-8843.

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA.** Every Tues. All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Humber at 445-1925.

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** Every Tues. All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs. 7:30-9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors (\$80 per semester dues for those who join). (586) 504-1155.

★**"Controlled Ecological Burn Public Meeting": Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation.** A chance to find out about the ecological burns the city conducts in city parks on weekdays throughout the spring and fall. The city holds a training session (preregistration required) at noon on March 3 for volunteers to help with the burns. Also, if you'd like to volunteer to take photos to monitor the city's restoration work, an information session is presented on Mar. 20, 10 a.m.-noon. 7:30-9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 794-6627.

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** Mar. 2 & 16. Annual member projected image (Mar. 2) and print (Mar. 16) competitions. 7:30 p.m., Wines School auditorium, 1701 Newport. Free (\$25 annual dues for those who join). 327-4781.

★**German Speakers' Round Table.** Every Tues. All German speakers invited for conversation. 8-10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453-2394.

★**"Triple Double Trivia": The Arena.** Every Tues. All invited to try a wide-ranging trivia quiz for prizes. Bonus points awarded for "stupid human tricks" like drinking beer upside down. 10 p.m., the Arena, 203 E. Washington. Free. 222-9999.

3 WEDNESDAY

★**Storytime: Waters Place Borders.** Every Wed.-Fri. Borders staff read from books for infants, babies, and toddlers. 10 a.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 6:30 p.m. (Thurs.), Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997-8884.

★**Storytime: Arborland Borders.** Every Wed. & Fri. A Borders staffer reads stories and leads a craft project for toddlers. Also, sing-alongs. 11 a.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 6:30 p.m. (Wed.), Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★**"The Taste of Ann Arbor No-Mile Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Mar. 3 & 17. Riders meet for lunch at different restaurants the 1st and 3rd Wed. through the winter. 11:30 a.m., location TBA. Free. Pay for your own lunch. 662-5052.

★**"Lunch & Learn": Ann Arbor City Club.** Michigan Women's Hall of Fame board member Beverly Fish discusses the process of nomination and acceptance into the Hall of Fame. 11:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$17.50 (includes lunch). Reservations required. 662-3279.

★**Chime Concert: Kerrystown Shops.** Every Wed., Fri., & Sat. All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. Local chimemaster Heather O'Neal demonstrates. Noon-12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30-11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrystown. Free. 369-3107.

★**Noon Lecture Series: Kempf House Center for Local History.** Every Wed. Mar. 3: U-M Ford Presidential Library archivist Donna Lehman discusses "America's First Ladies: A Personal Perspective." Mar. 10: "Klumpe's and 'Kidder's,'" a talk by Ann Arbor Doll Collectors members Linda Srodtzman, Madelaine Conboy, and Ruth Garrison on these felt dolls made by the Spanish tourist industry. Mar. 17: Hands-On Museum development director Nancy Bryk on "The Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum." Mar. 24: U-M political science professor Rick Hall on "An Uncorrupt Congress?" Mar. 31: U-M Kelsey Museum community outreach coordinator Todd Gerring discusses "80 Years of Archaeology." Noon-1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission \$2 (Kempf House members, \$1). 994-4898.

★**ACBL Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Every Wed. & Thurs. All seniors age 50 & over invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. 12:45-4:15 p.m. (Wed.) & noon-4 p.m. (Thurs.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$5. 769-5911.

★**Chess: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** Every Wed. All seniors invited to play chess. Refresh-

ments. 1-4 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabblers.** Every Wed. All invited to play this popular word game. Bring a set, if you have one. 5-8 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 114 E. Washington. Free. 994-0084.

★**Ann Arbor Bridge Club.** Every Wed. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. 7-11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline west of Maple. (Park on the north side of Pauline.) \$6 per person. 623-8050.

★**Children's Writers Group.** Mar. 3 & 17. All local children's writers invited to discuss their work. 7 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★**Health Talks: Washtenaw Whole Foods Market.** Mar. 3, 16, 17, & 30. Talks by Whole Foods staffers and local health practitioners. Mar. 3: "Let Food Be Your Medicine: Salads" (\$10). Mar. 16: "Anti-Nutrients and Their Effect on Your Health." Mar. 17: "Let Food Be Thy Medicine." Mar. 30: "Depression Resolution." 7 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free (except as noted). Preregistration required. 975-4500.

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. 7:30-10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426-5100.

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of Thomas Wright's *Built of Books: How Reading Defined the Life of Oscar Wilde*. Refreshments: 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★**"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company.** Every Wed.-Sun., through Mar. 27, and Mar. 23. Guy Sanville directs local actors in the world premiere of David MacGregor's drama about Isaac Newton. Surrounded by jealous rivals and backed by a mysterious patroness, the 17th-century scientist negotiates the delicate line between divinity and madness. Cast: Stacie Hadgikosti, Alex Leydenfrost, Nathan Mitchell, Michelle Mountain, Jim Poterfield, Rhianon Ragland, and Will David Young. 3 p.m. (every Wed. & Sat., except Mar. 17), 8 p.m. (Wed.-Sat. and Mar. 23), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Purple Rose, 137 Park St., Chelsea. \$25 (Sun. eves., Wed. & Thurs.), \$33 (Sat. & Sun. matinees), & \$38 (Fri. & Sat. eves.) in advance and at the door. 433-7673.

★**"Comedy Held Hostage": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** A trio of irreverent, somewhat politically incorrect young area comics—Chilllian Thomas, Susan Coletti, and Jarred Kreger—perform some solo stand-up comedy and get together for some improv games and to heckle the audience. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$5 in advance and at the door. 996-9080.

★**"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub.** Every Wed. Conor O'Neill's staff member Brian Aherne hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. 9-11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$3 team fee. 665-2968.

4 THURSDAY

★**Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center.** Every Thurs. Activities, primarily for seniors, begin at 10 a.m. with "Energy Exercise" (\$4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. Current Events discussion group led by Heather Dombe is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch (\$3 with reservation, \$4 without reservation and for nonseniors) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. Mar. 4: U-M Judaic studies professor Chava Weissler discusses "Jewish Folklife." Mar. 11: Ann Arbor District Library outreach assistant Ira Lax discusses "Library Programs and Services with Seniors in Mind." Mar. 18: Temple Beth Emeth rabbi Robert Levy discusses "Between Purim and Pesach." Mar. 25: Local pianist Will Bennett presents an all-Gershwin program that includes some sing-alongs. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** Every Thurs. Performances by area and guest musicians. Mar. 4: Finger-style guitar and ukulele player Gerald Ross. Mar. 11: U-M music students perform works by Beethoven, Handel, Faure, Tost, Duke, and Strauss. Mar. 18: Classical music and works from movie scores by a string quartet from the Michigan Pops Orchestra. Mar. 25: Local tenors Jeffrey Willets and Jay Kaplan perform everything from Broadway tunes to opera. 12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936-ARTS.

★**"The Generational Divide over Downtown Development": Concentrate.** Talk by Michigan Municipal League executive director Dan Gilmarin. 5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. Reservations required at concentratemedia.com.

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Euchre: Out Loud Chorus Fund-Raiser. All invited to compete in a euchre tournament. 7 p.m., Shanty Cabaret & Gallery, 325 Braun Ct. \$10. 663-0036.

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. Every Thurs. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$5. 761-6691.

Wine & Cheese Tasting: Mothers and More. Hosted by a Morgan & York staffer. All moms invited. 7-9 p.m., location TBA. \$14. 527-6880.

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. Every Thurs. Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dancing to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. 7:30-10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$5 (students, free). 971-0990.

ACBL.org: Ann Arbor District Library. Mar. 4 & 18. Hands-on introduction to less obvious features of the AADL website, including the advantages of us-

Celtic Music

Scythian

Roots dance party

Scythian emerged several years ago in Washington, DC, got audiences stomping and waving up and down the I-95 corridor, and then started appearing at the big outdoor roots music festivals like North Carolina's MerleFest. They play Celtic music, but two of the members are Ukrainian enough to speak Ukrainian, and all four have diverse backgrounds that include training in classical music and jazz. Percussionist Mike Ounallah—he's of Jordanian background—sometimes plays a washboard, and the high-powered rhythms come mostly from rock and punk.

The band is all about getting people up and moving, and even the Ark's generally contemplative crowd filled the club's small dance floor the last time Scythian was in town. But this is not a rock band with a few hints of Celtic flavor, and not even an acoustic one. They play their Celtic fiddle straight, and their slower pieces are spacious things like "Ashokan Farewell," not power ballads. What gives Scythian's music its kick is tension between the driving rhythms and the detailed instrumental work, with explosive twin fiddle combinations at top speed from the classically trained Alexander Fedoryka and Josef Crosby.

Other tensions stir up all kinds of subsidiary energies in the music. This "immigrant road show," as the band styles itself, plays a lot of Eastern European material, and combining that with Celtic tunes takes a bit of musical rigor along with all the group's youthful energy. There's gypsy fiddling, some bluegrass, a bit of klezmer, and even a tune called "Technocordion." The band

members file the edges off these styles enough so that they hold together but not so much that they lose their individuality. And they can read the crowd and take the music in various directions as needed to ramp up the energy. Scythian's late-night festival jams are legendary, and the jolt of adrenaline they bring should be a valuable thing in the gray stretches of March in Michigan.

Scythian comes to the Ark on Monday,

March 8. The Ark's programming has trended toward younger audiences since the retirement of longtime program director Dave Siglin a few years back, and appearances by bands like this one, which are at once tied to folk roots, attuned to global connections, and matched to the energy of young people, bode well for the club's future.

—James M. Manheim



"Thursday Night Rush Hour Relief": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. Every Thurs. Whole Foods staffers discuss wine. Also, tastings and small plates of food. Mar. 4: Pacific Northwest white wines. Mar. 11: cabernet blends. Mar. 18: California chardonnay. Mar. 25: "Pinot Noirs of the World." Also, Michigan beer tastings (\$1 tastes, \$3 pints) at 5 p.m. with representatives from Jolly Pumpkin Artisanal Ales (Mar. 5) in Dexter and the North Peak Brewing Company (Mar. 19) in Traverse City. 5-7 p.m., Whole Foods wine bar, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. \$17. 997-7500.

★ Mitchell Rycus: Nicola's Books. This U-M urban planning professor emeritus reads from *The Noble Profession of Leaf Chasing*, his new novel set in the late 19th-century Austro-Hungarian empire about 2 Jewish astronomy professors whose sins come back to haunt their descendants. Signing. 6:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★ Ann Arbor Go Club. Every Sun. & Thurs. Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. 7 p.m.-midnight (Thurs.) & 1-6 p.m. (Sun.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 417-5547.

Wine & Cheese Tasting: Mothers and More. Hosted by a Morgan & York staffer. All moms invited. 7-9 p.m., location TBA. \$14. 527-6880.

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★ AADL.org: Ann Arbor District Library. Mar. 4 & 18. Hands-on introduction to less obvious features of the AADL website, including the advantages of us-

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- Parent Workshop - "Self Esteem is Green" presented by Dr. JoAnn Deak Thursday, March 25th from 6:30 pm to 8:15 pm.

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Wednesday, March 17th, 7pm

SCREENING AND TALK:

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Producer/director Rick Beyer will present the first national screening of this rough cut film.

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EXHIBIT:

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dance party (Mar. 4) and a St. Patrick's Day dance party (Mar. 18). Refreshments. 7:30-11 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. \$5. 786-2237.

"Choral Cavalcade West": Ann Arbor Public Schools. Student choirs from Pioneer High School and Slauson and Tappan middle schools perform a wide spectrum of choral music, from international folk songs and classical songs to pop songs like the Dixie Chicks' "Easy Silence" and Eagle Eye Cherry's "Save Tonight." Also, Willis Patterson directs the popular local Our Own Thing Chorale in a performance TBA. Proceeds benefit middle and high school choirs. 7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium. \$5 (students, \$2; families, \$10) at the door. 994-2189.

★Motor City Metro Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Every Thurs. All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 8-10 p.m., ICC Education Center (behind Luther House at 1520 Hill). Free to visitors (\$130 annual dues for those who join). Park on Lincoln or Baldwin. 474-1155.

"It Came from Mars": Performance Network Professional Season. Every Thurs.-Sun., through Mar. 21. Tony Caselli directs local playwright Joseph Zettelmaier's off-the-wall play about a group of radio actors—a washed-up director, his diva ex-wife, a wannabe war hero, and a German sound effects wiz—terrified by Orson Welles' *War of the Worlds* broadcast. Cast: Wayne David Parker, Joseph Albright, Sandra Birch, Jacob Hodgson, Alycia Kolasz, and Morgan Chard. 8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. \$27 & \$29 (Thurs.), \$32 & \$34 (Fri. & Sun.), \$25 & \$27 (Sat. matinee), \$39 & \$41 (Sat. eve.). \$3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performanceetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. \$10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663-0681; to charge by phone, call 663-0696.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Moshe Kasher: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Mar. 4-6. Ann Arbor debut of this up-and-coming L.A. comic who specializes in satiric, purposefully offensive swipes at everyone from gays, Jews, gentiles, and non-English speakers to metrosexuals, buyers of thrift-store underwear, cops, seniors, and denizens of Modesto, CA. The *Denver Post* calls him "smart, dirty, sharp, self-deprecating and ultimately hilarious." Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all Fri. & Sat. early shows are nonsmoking. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$8 (Thurs.) & \$11 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

5 FRIDAY

★Lenten Recital Series: American Guild of Organists. Every Fri. through Mar. 26. Noontime concerts by professional and student organists on the First Congregational Church's mighty Wilhelm organ. Noon, First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Free. 662-4466.

★1st Friday Brown Bag Concert Series: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts. AASPA wind, string, and piano faculty perform works in a variety of genres. Bring a bag lunch. Noon, Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts, 637 S. Main. Free. 213-2000.

★Movie Matinee: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Fri. Screening of a film TBA. Lunch available (\$2.50), 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★In Good Company African American Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion of *Killing Johnny Fry*, Walter Mosley's sexually charged novel about a middle-age New Yorker who begins having kinkier and riskier sex after he discovers his girlfriend's infidelity. 4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

31st Annual Lenten Fish Fry: Old St. Patrick's Church. Every Fri., through Mar. 26. Fried Alaskan pollack, choice of potato, salad bar, and beverage. Desserts available for a nominal additional charge. Beer & wine available for donation. Be prepared to stand in line, but the food is worth the wait. 4:30-8 p.m., Old St. Pat's parish hall, 5671 Whitmore Lake Rd. at Northfield Church (3 miles north of Ann Arbor). \$7.50 (seniors, \$7; children 5-11, \$6.50; children 4 & under, free). 662-8141.

★AXIS Coffeehouse: Ann Arbor District Library. Every Fri. All kids in grades 6-12 invited to perform their own poetry or monologue, or a favorite by another writer, or just to sip a hot drink and listen. 6:30-8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

CCHA Playoffs: U-M Ice Hockey. March 5, 6, & (if necessary) 7. The U-M team opens its quest for the CCHA championship with a best-of-three series

against an opponent TBA. If it wins this series, the U-M is likely to host a 2nd-round series, March 12-14. 7 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. \$12-\$17. 764-0247.

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. 7-9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. \$5 requested donation. 332-7964.

★Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. Mar. 5 & 19. All invited to join an ongoing discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *Sleep and Dreams*. Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. 8-9:30 p.m., 1923 Geddes (Mar. 5) & location TBA (Mar. 19). Free. 944-4903.

"It Came from Mars": Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Moshe Kasher: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Swing Dance Party": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association. Every Fri. Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, blues, and Balboa dancing to a DJ. No partner needed. Bring hard-sole shoes. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. 8:45-11:45 p.m., Dakota Bldg., 1785 W. Stadium. \$5 (includes lessons; students, \$3). 417-9857.

6 SATURDAY

★"Sunrise Saturday Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Sat. Very slow-paced 22-mile ride to Dexter for breakfast. Sunrise, meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 662-0205.

★Gray Panthers of Huron Valley. Ypsilanti Food Co-op manager Corinne Sikorski discusses shopping and eating smarter to avoid some of the hazardous or potentially hazardous items available in the marketplace. Discussion follows. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. 9:45 a.m.-noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973-5593.

"Maple Sugaring: A Journey to the Sugar Bush": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Every Sat. & Sun., Feb. 27-Mar. 27. Naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck discusses the history of maple sugaring and leads a hike to a stand of maple trees to see how they are tapped, followed by a trip to an evaporator to learn how sap is turned into syrup. Also, a pancake and sausage breakfast (\$5; kids, \$3.50), 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 10 & 11 a.m. and noon. Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$2. Preregistration required. \$4 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

★Project Grow. Mar. 6 & 13. Programs presented by Project Grow instructor Royer Held. Mar. 6: "The Basics of Organic Gardening." Mar. 13: "Enjoying and Preserving Heirloom Vegetable Varieties in Your Garden." Also, on Mar. 20, 10 a.m.-noon, "A-Mazing Chickens" (\$15; preregistration required at projectgrowgardens.org) an introduction to raising chickens in your backyard presented by Project Grow instructor Peter Thomason at his Ypsilanti home, 211 Woodward. 10-11:30 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free; donation appreciated. 996-3169.

"Dreaming of a Greener World" Sculpture Contest: Whole Foods Market/The Scrap Box/Recycle Ann Arbor. Mar. 6 & 13. All kids ages 7-11 (morning session) and adults and teens ages 12 & over (afternoon session), in teams of 2 or 3, invited to make a sculpture from recycled materials. All sculptures will be entered in a contest and displayed at the ReArt Gallery (see Galleries) where people can vote for their favorites. Prizes. 10 a.m.-noon (kids session) & 1:30-3:30 p.m. (adult session), The Scrap Box, 581 State Circle. \$10 (kids, \$5) materials fee. Preregistration required at scrapbox.org. 944-0012.

★Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Raceway. Mar. 6 & 13. One of the largest regular gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Spectators welcome. Concessions. 10:30 a.m. (doors open at 8 a.m.)-midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free admission. \$16 to race. (313) 565-2815.

★Nature's Expressions. Mar. 6 & 7. Show and sale of crystalline mineral specimens, fossils, shells, mounted butterflies and insects, and more. Includes a complete fossil skeleton of a 9-foot, 100,000-year-old cave bear. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 3443 Daleview Dr. (off N. Maple Rd. north of Huron River Dr.). Free. 994-3048.

★Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble. Every Sat. Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids. 11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

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★Storytime: Nicola's Books. Every Sat. An experienced storyteller reads stories for kids age 7 & under. Also, Wild Thing from Sendak's children's classic roars in after the Mar. 13 story hour. 11 a.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. Every Sat. & Sun. Three different audiovisual planetarium shows. The Sky Tonight (11:30 a.m. Sat. only and 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both days) explores the current night sky. Hubble Vision (12:30 p.m. Sat. only) is an audiovisual show about the discoveries made by the Hubble Space Telescope. IBEX: Search for the Edge of the Solar System (2:30 p.m. both days) is about the development and mission of NASA's Interstellar Boundary Explorer. 11:30 a.m. and 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$4.75. 764-0478.

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. Every Sat. All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Golf discs available free. Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$5 per player; free for spectators. \$4 vehicle entrance fee. 449-4300.

"Professor Ray's Everyday Science": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. Mar. 6, 7, 20, & 21. Museum staff give family-friendly science demos on "Luminosity" (Mar. 6 & 7) and "Good Vibrations" (Mar. 20 & 21). 1 & 3 p.m., Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. \$9 regular admission (members & infants, free). 995-5439.

★"Sap to Syrup: Doing It Yourself": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner discusses and demonstrates the steps of maple sugaring for those who'd like to try it at home, including tree ID, tapping, and boiling the sap. Dress for the weather. 1-2 p.m. (families with kids age 11 & under) & 3-4 p.m. (adults and kids age 12 & over), County Parks Field Operations Bldg., County Farm Park, Platt Rd. entrance (south of Washtenaw). Free. Preregistration required. 971-6337, ext. 334.

★Nature Programs: Waterloo Recreation Area. Mar. 6 & 20. Programs presented by WRA park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh unless otherwise noted. Mar. 6: "Spring into Gardening." Master gardener Sharon Sohoza discusses soil preparation, seed starting, new and old garden beds, and spring cleaning. Participants plant an herb or flower seed to take home. Mar. 20: "Spring Awakening." A brisk walk along a trail to look for signs of spring. 2 p.m. unless otherwise noted, Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Waterloo Recreation Area. Preregistration requested. Free. \$6 vehicle entry fee. 475-3170.

★Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum. Every Sat. & Sun. 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. 2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764-0478.

★Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club. Every Sat. All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. 2-4 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761-1115.

★"The Eye of the Beholder": UMMA. See review, p. 47. A speaker TBA discusses the current exhibit of European Expressionist prints and drawings. 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★Food Sessions: Morgan & York. Every Sat. Demos by Morgan & York staffers. Tastings. Mar. 6 & 20: "Learn to Make Gnocchi." Mar. 13: "How to Cook Corned Beef." Mar. 27: "Fondue vs. Raclette." Preceded at 2 p.m. by wine talks on "Old World vs. New World" (Mar. 6 & 27) and "How to Build a Wine Cellar" (Mar. 13 & 20), 3-4 p.m., Morgan & York, 1928 Packard. Free. 662-0798.

★"The Hidden Magic of Walt Disney World: Over 600 Secrets of the Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Disney's Hollywood Studios, and Animal Kingdom": Barnes & Noble. Orlando travel writer Susan Veness discusses her new book. Signing. 3 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1816.

★Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Mar. 6 & 20. All musicians invited for a contra music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook* if you have it. 3-6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 973-2338.

★Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment. Kids of all ages and musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. Preceded at 3 p.m. by a kids drum circle (\$10) hosted by Oz's owner Steve Osburn. Drums provided. 4-5 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. Free; donations welcome. 662-8283.

★"Owl Prowl": Washtenaw Audubon Society. WAS members Ray Stocking and Andy Johnson lead an auto trek to spots around the county to look and

listen for owls, including the Eastern screech owl, the great horned owl, and the barred owl. Dress for the weather. Rain date: Mar. 7. 5-9 p.m., departure location TBA. Preregistration required; space limited. Free. 973-3155.

Bockbier Fest: Ann Arbor Schwaben Verein. This annual spring festival features a German dinner followed by dancing to Tommy Schober & the Sorgenbrechers. Cash bar. 5:30-10:30 p.m., UAW Local 892 Hall, 601 Woodland, Saline. Tickets \$25 in advance and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended. For reservations, call Walter Hahn at 475-1685 or John Jarvis at 954-0281.

"Owl Prowl": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Leslie Science and Nature Center staff members present a program that includes hikes through Black Pond Woods and presentations with live owls to learn how ears, eyes, and feathers help owls survive in the night. 7-9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$8 (family, \$30). 997-1533.

Team USA Under-18 vs. Sioux Falls. The Ann Arbor-based USA Hockey national development team plays this U.S. Hockey League rival. Team USA Under-18 also has a USHL match this month against Des Moines (Mar. 7, 7 p.m.). Team USA Under-17 has USHL matches against Sioux Falls (Mar. 7, 3 p.m.), Des Moines (Mar. 8, 7 p.m.), and Youngstown (Mar. 26, 7 p.m.). 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. \$12 (seniors, students, & children, \$6; kids under 5, free). 327-9251.

"Casino Night": Friends of the Saline Area Fire Department. With blackjack, Texas Hold 'Em, craps, and roulette. Followed by dancing to rock music spun by DJ Del Villareal. Live auction. Hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. Proceeds benefit the SAFD equipment fund. 7 p.m.-midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Tickets \$30. 429-4440.

Annual Benefit Concert: Dance Alliance Repertory Company. Dance Alliance students ages 8-18 perform ballet, tap, jazz, modern, lyrical, hip-hop, and other dance styles. 7 p.m., Saline High School Performing Arts Center, 1300 Campus Pkwy., Saline. Tickets \$13 in advance at Dance Alliance (811 W. Michigan, Saline) & the Dancer's Boutique (2414 E. Stadium, Ann Arbor), and at the door. 429-9599.

Trio La Vita: Kerrystown Concert House.

This trio of violinist Maria Bessmeltsseva, cellist Carrie Pierce, and pianist Misuzu Tanaka—all U-M grad students—performs Haydn's Piano Trio in A Major, John Ireland's *Phantasie*, and Anton Arensky's Piano Trio in D Minor. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Stephen Stills: Live Nation. Rare solo performance by this renowned singer-songwriter, best known as a member of the seminal folk-rock bands Buffalo Springfield and Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$35 & \$45 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Ticketmaster.com, & all other Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

"It Came from Mars": Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Moshe Kasher: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. Mar. 6 & 19. All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. With recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by DJ Mike Jackson. Mar. 6: "Motown Memories Dance Party" featuring a mix of Motown and newer favorites. Mar. 19: "Surf's Up! Beach Party Dance." Casual summer attire encouraged. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. 8 p.m.-midnight, Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. \$8 (PWP members, \$6). 433-1668.

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Ohio caller Kate Powers calls to music by Debbie Jackson and Brad Battye. All dances taught; no partner needed. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$9 (members, \$8; students, \$5). 769-1052.

★"The Hidden Magic of Walt Disney World: Over 600 Secrets of the Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Disney's Hollywood Studios, and Animal Kingdom": Barnes & Noble. Orlando travel writer Susan Veness discusses her new book. Signing. 3 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1816.

★"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. Mar. 6 & 20. Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. Note: People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Michigan Union (Mar. 6) and Michigan League Vandenberg Room (Mar. 20). Free. 973-2338.

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: danceRevolution Dance Studio. Mar. 6 & 20. High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to recorded music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., danceRevolution, 220 S. Main. \$5. 945-8428.

Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. Mar. 6, 13, & 20. The Dreamland puppet troupe presents Ian Bost's *The Heror Chronicles: An Adventure Which Hath Occurred in Peatanglia* and Patrick Elkins' *Trash*

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March 14
Michigan Theater
4:00 PM

Star-Spangled Music

DVORÁK Largo, "New World Symphony"
SOUSA Stars & Stripes Forever
GERSHWIN I Got Rhythm Fascinating Rhythm
BOLCOM Seattle Slew: Derby Dressage
COPLAND Fanfare for the Common Man
TOWER Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman
STILL Humor from "Afro-American" Symphony
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COMEDY SHOWS IN POLICY ASSESSMENT
AND CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS**

Friday, March 12, 2010

Reception 4:30 pm - Lecture 5:00 pm

Room 1230, Undergraduate Science Building

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Mountain. *The Heror Chronicles* is about a king eager to experience danger who goes on an adventure with one of the warriors in his realm. *Trash Mountain* is about a society of sentient donuts who struggle with the effect of a new recycling law that threatens their greatest architectural success. 9 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$5. 657-2337.

7 SUNDAY

★“**A2Sunday Runners**”: Two Dogs Running. Every Sun. All invited to join informal runs of 5-7 miles along various scenic routes. 8:30 a.m., meet at Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, Kerytown. Free. 657-0214.

★“**Compassion for Oneself Is Key**”: Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. Talk by Gehlek Rimpoche, an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. 10-11 a.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994-3387.

★“**Ultimate Frisbee: H.A.C. Ultimate**”: Every Sun. All invited to a very relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport. Note: Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. 11 a.m., location TBA at maxilla.msis.med.umich.edu/hac/game.php. Free. 846-9418.

★“**First Singles: First Presbyterian Church**”: Every Sun. A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Mar. 7: group conversation. Mar. 14: First Singles member Marcy Toon discusses Walter Russell Bowie's *Men of Fire: Torchbearers of the Gospel*. Mar. 21: Marcy Toon leads a discussion of “Vocabulary Fun: A Look at Word Origins.” Mar. 28: potluck and planning meeting. 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466, ext. 43.

Tour: **Kempf House Museum**. Every Sun. Guided tours of this restored 19th-century Greek Revival home, named for the family of German American musicians who occupied it around the end of the 19th century. 1-4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission \$1 (children under age 12, free). 994-4898.

★“**Storytime: Downtown Borders**”: Every Sun. A Borders staffer reads stories for kids. 1 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

★“**Chinese Brush Painting**”: UMMA. All families invited to drop in and try basic Chinese ink paintings. Materials provided. 1-5 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★“**The New UMMA**”: UMMA. Every Sun. Docent-led tours of the recently renovated museum. 1 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

U-M Detroit Observatory. Mar. 7 & 20. Half-hour docent-guided tours of photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope and rotate the telescope dome. 1-4 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann Arbor Observatory. \$5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 763-3482.

Contact Improv. Every Sun. All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves contact with one or more partners. It can involve improvisational lifts and other experiments with gravity. You might find yourself upside down, so dress appropriately for easy movement. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. 1-3 p.m., Shout Cabaret, 315 Braun Ct. \$5-\$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604-4416.

★“**Comic Artists Forum**”: Ann Arbor District Library. Local comic artist Mark Rudolph, author of the graphic novel *Closing Doors*, offers a hands-on introduction to the art of visual storytelling for teens in grade 6 & up and adults. Bring your favorite drawing tools; paper provided. 1-3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★“**Kerry Tales: March, March, March with Mother Goose**”: Kerrystown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. 2 p.m., Hollander's, 407 N. Fifth Ave. (Kerrystown). Free. 769-3115.

★“**Secret Garden Scriptwriting Workshop**”: Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades 4-12 invited to help director Jacqueline Corneau write a scene for the adaptation of Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden* she is writing for a Junior Theatre production in May. 2-4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★“**The Eye of the Beholder: European Drawings and Prints from the Pulgram-McSparran Collection**”: UMMA. Mar. 7 & 14. See review, p. 47. Docent-led tour of this current exhibit. 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★Lauren Oliver: *Waters Place Borders*. This young New York writer reads from *Before I Fall*, her debut young adult novel about a high school senior

compelled to relive the day of her death 7 times. Signing. 2 p.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997-8884.

“**Classic Inventions**”: Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen directs this local volunteer ensemble in Strauss's *Vienna Philharmonic Fanfare*, Bach's *Toccata and Fugue in D Minor*, Dupre's *Cortege and Litania*, Nissen's *Sanctuary*, Haydn Wood's *Mannin Veen (Dear Isle of Man)*, Jan Van der Roost's *Puszta (4 Gypsy Dances)*, Percy Grainger's “Molly on the Shore” and “Ye Banks and Braes o' Bonnie Doon,” and Saint-Saens's *Symphony no. 3 in C Minor*. 2 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10 (students & seniors, \$5; kids age 12 & under, free) in advance and at the door. 434-7876.

“**Gravity**”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday, 2 p.m.

“**It Came from Mars**”: Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday, 2 p.m.

Robert Gruca: Ann Arbor Classical Guitar Society. Recital by this internationally acclaimed classical guitarist, a Grand Valley State University grad whose forthcoming CD of Handel works includes some original transcriptions. 3 p.m., Northside Community Church, 929 Barton Dr. \$20 (students, \$10) at the door only. 272-8972.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. Every Sun. The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents marionette and shadow puppet shows for kids. 3:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657-2337.

★“**Who Does She Think She Is?**”: Yourist Studio Gallery. Screening of Pamela Tanner Boll's documentary about 5 women artists who navigate the challenges of making art outside of the elite art world. 4 p.m., Yourist Studio Gallery, 1133 Broadway. Free. 662-4914.

★Dexter Community Orchestra. Donald Parrish conducts this volunteer ensemble in Beethoven's Symphony no. 5, “Hoe-Down” from Copland's *Rodeo*, and Grieg's Piano Concerto, with soloist J. Bennett, winner of the 2009 DCO Young Artist Competition. “A sensitive and refined musician, his virtuosic technique is always at the service of his musical expression,” says Cleveland Institute of Music guitar professor John Holmquist. 4 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker (south of Shield from Baker Rd.), Dexter. Free. 355-0725.

★Ann Arbor Morris. Every Sun. All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance based on the 15th-century Spanish *moresca*. Wear athletic shoes. 6-8 p.m., Gretchen's House VII barn, 1580 Dhu Warren Rd. Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm. 747-8138.

“**A Circle of Drums**”: Drumwomyn. Every Sun. (tentatively). All women invited to “celebrate the special connection between women and the drum.” Bring your own drum. Evening time & location TBA. Donation. 913-9670.

★“**Music for Contemplation**”: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Every Sun., through Mar. 28 (different programs). Today: The St. Andrew's Chamber Choir performs Thomas Tallis's *Lamentations of Jeremiah* and Gregorio Allegri's *Miserere Mei*. 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. Free. 662-4466.

U-M Ballroom Dancers. Every Sun. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. 8-10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom (Mar. 7), Michigan League Ballroom (Mar. 14), and Michigan Union U-Club (Mar. 21 & 28). \$3. 763-6984.

8 MONDAY

★“**Sulpicius Maximus, Poet, Eleven Years Old**”: U-M Classical Studies Department Jerome Lecture Series. Mar. 8, 10, 15, & 18 (different locations). A series of talks by Harvard University Latin professor Kathleen Coleman. Mar. 8: “Spontaneity.” Mar. 10: “Precocity.” Mar. 15: “Authority.” Mar. 18: “Immortality.” 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (Mar. 8) & U-M Kelsey Museum Lecture Hall (Mar. 10, 15, & 18). Free. 764-0360.

★“**Community Resources for People with Disabilities**”: Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by Washburn Association for Community Advocacy Family Resource Center director Ann Carrelles. 6:30-8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★“**Member Showcase**”: Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. Club members show and give short talks on their projects. 7 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665-0703.

★“**General James B. McPherson: The Star-Crossed Knight of the Union**”: Ann Arbor Area Civil War Round Table. Tiffin (OH) historian Thomas Waldsmith discusses his book about the Union general who was so beloved that Ulysses S. Grant wept when he heard of his death in the 1864

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Andrew Kratzat Quartet

Off the beaten path

The band's lineup is your first clue. When the Andrew Kratzat Quartet performs at the Kerrytown Concert House on Wednesday, March 10, they won't be offering a night of conventional or traditional jazz. Aside from Kratzat on double bass, the ensemble is comprised of saxophonists Andrew Bishop and Daniel Fisher-Lochhead and pianist Matt Endhal—a grouping that's a bit off the beaten path. And speaking of the beaten path, where is the drummer? When was the last time you heard a jazz quartet without drums?

It's not that Kratzat has an aversion to drums or drummers. His 2008 debut CD, *The Dentist*, features them on more than half the tracks. Rather, this adventurous and thoughtful young player says he has long been interested in ensembles that are "missing one of their key components. This has in the past meant not including a chordal instrument, such as piano or guitar, which has given me the freedom to really play with the harmony. Acoustically, [Kerrytown Concert House] fits more sustained instruments like piano, and dropping the drums will make it easier to be more free rhythmically."

Kratzat's playing draws on the work of two of his primary influences, bassists Charlie Haden and Larry Grenadier, players who are not, as he puts it, "Bebop-chops-aholics, but instead lead with melodic intuition." Which is not to say that Kratzat's lacking in chops. Everything on his CD—whether with full band or on spare duets with violinist extraordinaire Jeremy Kittel, or on a unique vocals-and-bass duo treatment of Jimmy Rowles' famous instrumental "The Peacocks"—amply illustrates Kratzat's ability to lay down lush, out-of-the-ordinary harmonies as well as rhythmic underpinnings that are noteworthy for technical intricacy and compelling propulsion.

His compositions also march to a different beat and showcase far more than traditional walking bass lines. His evolving



voice, springing from wide listening, especially to the works of Ornette Coleman, Tim Berne, and György Ligeti, expresses itself in hypnotic ostinatos, complex polyrhythms, and sometimes in gorgeous lyric melodies.

Kratzat is already in another drummerless band, the Hot Club of Detroit, though they frequently do rely on a percussive rhythm guitar. Kratzat is flexible enough to fit into that Gypsy jazz sound and a wide variety of other styles and genres. The 2006 U-M music school graduate has performed with, or is currently gigging with, among others, Kittel, the group Millish, James Carter, and Sam Barsh. Kratzat's versatile enough to jam with just about anyone, but he's particularly looking forward to working with this quartet, reshaping compositions he's performed and recorded in other configurations, as well as exploring his more recent pieces.

—Sandor Slomovits

Battle of Atlanta. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750-2741.

*"Theological and Philosophical Aspects of Shi'i Political Thought": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. Talk by Duke University religion professor Mohsen Kadivar. On Mar. 7, Kadivar gives a talk in Persian, on "The Green Movement in Iran" (4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre). 7 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764-0350.

*"Prisoner Creative Arts Program": National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Washtenaw County. U-M English professor Buzz Alexander discusses this program he created to help inmates develop marketable skills while in prison. 7:30-9:30 p.m., NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. 994-6611.

*"Refractions": U-M School of Music. U-M jazz piano professor Geri Allen performs her new composition set to a short film by Carrie Mae Weems, a renowned artist whose work focuses on issues that face African Americans. "Just as light passes through a prism and emerges in a new direction, I will allow the music of Taylor, Tyner, and Hancock to pass through me," Allen says of her composition. 8 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0594.

The Ragbirds: Ann Arbor Vineyard Church Homeless Outreach. Inventive local country-rock band, fronted by singer-songwriter Erin Zindle, whose music mixes in elements of world music, groove rock, and edgy pop. The band uses a diverse mix of instruments, including violin, mandolin, banjo, accordion, acoustic guitar, and percussion elements from around the world, as well as the old-fashioned drumkit. Opening act is Vineyard band leader Shawn Garth Walker, a local Americana singer-songwriter who is joined by other musicians

TBA. Proceeds benefit the Vineyard Homeless Ministry. 8 p.m., Ann Arbor Vineyard, 2775 Platt. \$10 in advance at annarborvineyard.org and at the door. 477-9135, ext. 111.

9 TUESDAY

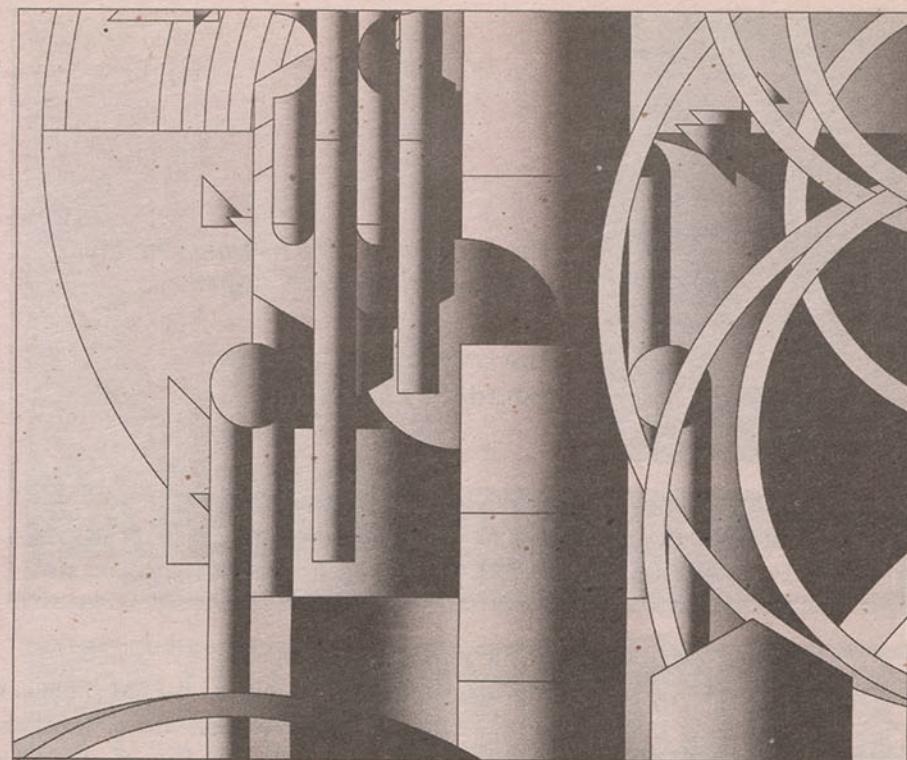
*Good Thyme Garden Club. Local ornithologist Dea Armstrong discusses how to attract birds to a garden. 10 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 369-8682.

*Scott Hocking: U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery. This Michigan artist discusses the current exhibit of his installations inspired by abandoned buildings in Detroit (see Galleries). Noon, 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936-1935.

*Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities Brown Bag Lunch. Mar. 9, 16, & 30. Bring a bag lunch. This month's topics include works in the Institute's current exhibit of "Detroit-Area Artists" (Mar. 9), "House Slaves" in a West African Slaving Port: Questions of Status and Role in Eighteenth-Century Saint-Louis du Sénégal" (Mar. 16), and "Zora Neale Hurston's Environmental History" (Mar. 30). For details, see lsa.umich.edu/humin. Noon-1:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936-3518.

*Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies. Every Tues. except Mar. 2. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. This month's topics include "The Song Is You: Histories of the Song Dynasty (960-1279 CE) in the U.S." (Mar. 9), "Sounds from the Ground: Recently Excavated Warring-States Texts and the Linguistic Reconstruction of Early Chinese" (Mar. 16), "Confessions of a Peking Tom: A China Odyssey" (Mar. 23), and "Experi-

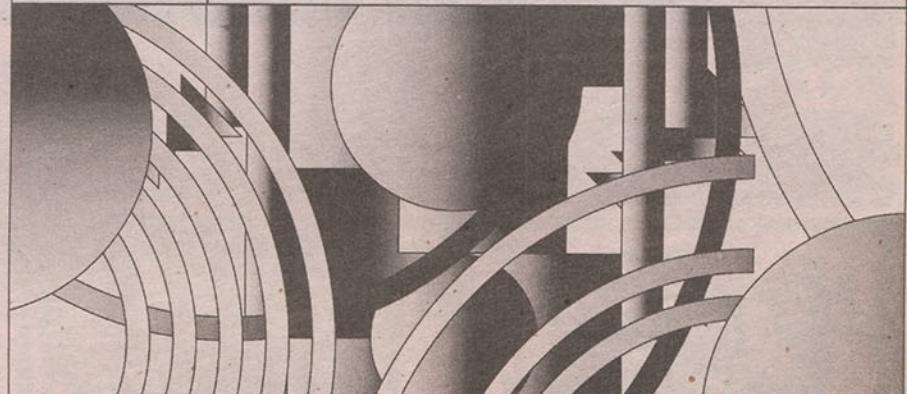
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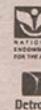
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ence of the Studio: Luo Ping's Copy of the Three Horse Paintings by the Zhao Family" (Mar. 30). For details, see ii.umich.edu/ccs/events_programs/noonlectureseries. Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6308.

★"Intelligence and How to Get It: Nature, Nurture, and Neurons": U-M Annual Henry Russel Lecture. Lecture by U-M psychology professor Richard Nisbett. 4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 763-7142.

★U-M College of Architecture and Urban Planning Lecture Series. Mar. 9, 11, & 16. Talks by visiting architects and scholars. Mar. 9: "Perceptive Pixels." NYU research scientist Jefferson Han discusses his work on multi-touch sensing, the capacity of a touch-screen surface to register more than one point of contact. Mar. 11: "Design Morphology." Georgia Tech architecture professor Sonit Bafna discusses aesthetic theories, the relationship between thought and design in architecture, and more. Mar. 16: "Form and Forces." Award-winning structural designer John Ochsendorf discusses his research on the structural safety of historical monuments and the design of more sustainable infrastructure. 6:30 p.m., U-M 2104 Art + Architecture Bldg., 2000 Bonisteel. Free. 764-1300.

★Spain: Modern and Over-Delivering": Vinology. A Vinology staffer discusses and leads a tasting of new Spanish wines that "over-deliver" on flavor. Vinology also offers a tasting TBA (Mar. 23, 7–9 p.m., \$30). 7 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main, \$30 (plus tax & tip). Reservations required. 222-9841.

★Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department. All age 21 & over invited to discuss volumes 1 & 2 of *All-Star Superman*, Grant Morrison and Frank Quitely's 2007 version of the classic superhero comic. 7–9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764-2553.

★Green Talks: Washtenaw Whole Foods Market. Mar. 9 & 28. Talks by local experts. Mar. 9: a Recycle Ann Arbor representative on "Energy Efficiency 101." Mar. 28: Eco-Posh Events executive planner Erika Piquant on "Eco-Friendly Wedding and Special Event Planning." 7 p.m. (Mar. 9) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 28), Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 975-4500.

★"Translating Knowledge: Global Perspectives on Museums and Community": UMMA Lecture Series. Mar. 9, 23, & 30. Talks by visiting scholars. Mar. 9: American Museum of Natural History and Bard Graduate Center anthropologist Aaron Glass. Mar. 23: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (San Francisco) visual arts director Betti-Sue Hertz discusses "Curatorial Decision Making in Times of Change." Mar. 30: Emory University liberal arts professor Ivan Karp. 7 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★Sierra Club Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss *Reflections from the North Country*, a collection of essays by the well-known nature writer Sigurd Olson. 7:15 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-1157.

★Washtenaw Ski Touring Club. Mar. 9 & 21. Club member Kathleen Titus on "What It Takes to Be a Trip Leader" (Mar. 9). Preceded at 7 p.m. by socializing. Also this month: an "End-of-Season Potluck" (Mar. 21, 5 p.m., Gladwin Center, 4105 W. Liberty). Bring a dish to pass, your own drink, and your own table service. Preceded at 3 p.m. by a hike. 7:30 p.m., Kerrystown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 662-SKIS.

★"Prison Policy": Ann Arbor Area League of Women Voters. All invited to join a discussion of the position the LWV should adopt on prison policy. 7:30–9:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 665-5808.

★Loose Leaf Readings: Ann Arbor Wordworks. Open mike for teen poets and writers. The program begins with a reading by a local poet or writer. 7:30 p.m., TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 622-0460.

★Annual U-M Golden Apple Award: U-M Hillel. Ceremony honoring U-M psychology professor Chris Peterson, the recipient of this year's award, chosen by U-M students, for outstanding undergraduate teaching. The honoree traditionally gives a lecture answering the challenge, "If you could give only one lecture, what would you really want to say to this generation of students?" 7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 769-0500.

★Choral Cavalcade East": Ann Arbor Public Schools. Performances by student choirs from Huron High School and Clague and Scarlett middle schools. 7:30 p.m., Huron High, 2727 Fuller Rd. Admission TBA. 994-2040.

Avett Brothers: The Ark. Postpunk southern roots music by this heralded young string trio from North Carolina whose music has been described as a cross between the Everly Brothers and the Violent Femmes. The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* praises the band for exploiting "the tensions between the rustic Old

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South and the cosmopolitan New South, between rootsy bluegrass and rowdy punk rock, between reverence and irreverence." Its 2007 CD *Emotionalism*, which debuted at #1 on the Billboard Heatseekers chart, is a collection of adventurously inventive originals that *Paste* magazine reviewer Steve LaBate calls "sporadically reminiscent of everything from Help!-era Beatles to Chopin nocturnes." The Avett Brothers have a new album, *I and Love and You*. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$15 in advance at *Herb David Guitar Studio*, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

★**Baylor Faculty Brass Quintet:** U-M School of Music. This Baylor University music faculty ensemble plays works by Bach, Karl Pilss, Herbert Hauffrecht, Alexander Goedicke, Willis, and Tcherepnin. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

10 WEDNESDAY

Spring Concert: Society for Musical Arts. Performances by winners of the society's recent Youth Music Competition for 13-to-18-year-olds. Followed by a meet-the-artist lunch (\$13). 10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$15 (accompanying friend, \$13; students, \$5) at the door only. Lunch reservations required. 662-3279. 429-4705.

★**Noon Lecture Series:** U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies. Mar. 10, 24, & 31. Talks by U-M and visiting speakers. Mar. 10: WSU comparative politics professor Kevin Deegan-Krause discusses "Disassembling Populism (and Putting It Back Together Again)." Mar. 24: Princeton University history professor Ekaterina Pravilova on "Public Goods and Property Rights in Late Imperial Russia." Mar. 31: Northeastern Illinois anthropology professor Russell Zanca on "Health of a Nation: Labor Migration and the Uzbek State." Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0351.

★**Brown Bag Organ Series:** U-M School of Music. Mar. 10 & 24 (different programs). Program TBA by local organists. Today: Sipkje Pesnichak. 12:15 p.m., U-M School of Public Health Community Room, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764-0594.

★**"Flags You Are Barking up the Wrong Tree":** Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Talk by Birmingham genealogist Karen Krugman. Followed by a panel discussion with club members on "Family Reunions." 1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483-2799.

★**U-M Center for Korean Studies Lecture Series:** Mar. 10 & 17. Talks by visiting scholars. Mar. 10: "Cosmopolitan Style and Colonial Nostalgia in 1950s South Korean Cinema." Mar. 17: "Freedom of Expression in South Korea: Still an Evolving Right Twenty Years After?" 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 S. University. Free. 764-1825.

★**"Will U.S. Schools Drag Us Down?":** U-M Ford School of Public Policy Educational Policy Initiative. Talk by Stanford University Hoover Institution senior fellow Eric Hanushek. 4-5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 647-4091.

★**Jonathan Rowe: Nicola's Books.** This U-M Hopwood Award-winning Ann Arbor native, a retired attorney who splits his time between Ann Arbor and London, reads from *The River of Strange People*, his new novel about 3 modern skeptics—a pirate, a doctor, and a paralegal—who begin to believe in the fountain of youth after discovering the histories and legends of people who have sought the mythical fountain over the centuries. Signing. 6:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**"Ives Road Fen Volunteerism: Inspiring Dedication":** Wild Ones. Nature Conservancy ecological restoration leader Chuck Pearson gives a slide-illustrated talk about his efforts to restore a fen and other natural areas near the River Raisin in Tecumseh. 6:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 622-9997.

Deli Tastings: Zingerman's Delicatessen. Mar. 10, 11, & 24. Zingerman's staff and guest food experts discuss and offer taste samples of various gourmet delights: Mar. 10: "British Cheese." Mar. 11: "Chocolate Rendez-Vous" featuring a variety of gourmet dark chocolate bars. Mar. 24: "Olive Oil." Also, on Mar. 15, Zingerman's co-owner Ari Weinzweig hosts a "Deli's Birthday Tasting" (\$28 in advance, \$40 at the door) featuring a variety of treats TBA. 7-9 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs kids room), 422 Detroit St. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Space limited; reservations required. 663-3354.

★**"Love the One You're With: Architecture & Urbanism in Detroit":** Ann Arbor District Library. Slide-illustrated talk by *Detroit News* art & architecture writer Michael Hodges. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**Fiction Book Club:** Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion of *Fingersmith*, Sarah Waters' crime novel set in Victorian England. Refreshments. 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**Works-in-Progress Series:** Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Mar. 10, 17, & 31. Featured writers read from their current work. Tonight: fiction readings by Hopwood-winning U-M grad Brian Short and U-M creative writing grad student Rodney Peppers. 7-9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★**"Heritage in the Landscape":** Pittsfield Grange. U-M art and design grad student Jennifer Scott discusses her research. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). 7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 769-1052.

★**History Readers Group:** Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. EMU history professor emeritus Jiu-Hwa Upshur leads a discussion of David Silbey's *A War of Frontier and Empire: The Philippine-American War, 1899-1902*. 7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369-2499.

★**"Gerald R. Ford's First 100 Days":** U-M Ford Presidential Library. Talk by Benton Becker, an attorney who advised President Ford on the pardon of Richard Nixon and the disposition of Nixon's papers and the infamous tapes. Reception follows. 7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205-0555.

★**Museum Lecture Series:** UMMA. Mar. 10 & 17. Talks by visiting scholars. Topics: "Crucibles and Catalysts: The Potential of Museums and Galleries in Higher Education" (Mar. 10) and "The Social Museum: Online Community Building and the Future of Museums" (Mar. 17). 7:30 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★**"Legacy of a False Promise":** Author's Forum. Local writer Margaret Fuchs Singer discusses her memoir about what happened to her family when her father testified before the notorious House Un-American Activities Committee. Also, U-M history professor Harold Brick and psychoanalyst Nancy Blieden discuss the McCarthy era. 7:30 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. Free. 764-5733.

★**"Stretch vs. Strain: Building Emotional Muscle in Children and Parents":** Allen Creek Preschool. Talk by local psychoanalyst Kerry Kelly Novick. 8 p.m., Preschool, 2350 Miller. Free. 994-3382.

Andrew Kratzat Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. Local bassist Kratzat leads his quartet in a program of experimental jazz. Members include pianist Matt Endahl and saxophonists Andrew Bishop and Daniel Fischer-Lochhead. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★**"Gravity":** Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**"Chili's Comedy Dojo":** Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Fast-paced show featuring stand-up comedy by 15 recent graduates of veteran comic and former *Tonight Show* writer Chili Challis's Comedy Dojo. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$5 in advance and at the door. 996-9080.

Wednesdays @ Michigan Union: Swing Ann Arbor. Mar. 10, 17, 24, & 31. Swing dancing to pre-recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded by intermediate swing (7:30 p.m.) and beginning swing (8:30 p.m.) lessons. 9:30-11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room (occasionally Ballroom or U-Club). \$5 (students, \$4) includes lessons. 945-8428.

11 THURSDAY

★**Noon Lecture Series:** U-M Center for Japanese Studies. Mar. 11, 18, & 25. Talks by visiting scholars. Topics include "Kan as the Haunted Other: Linguistic Reforms in Meiji Japan" (Mar. 11), "Kawaguchi Eikai's 'True Buddhism': Continental Asia and Japanese Buddhist Reform" (Mar. 18), and "Inquisition and Domestic Enslavement on a Coral Reef: The Curious Biology of the Cardinalfish Hikari-ishimochi" (Mar. 25). Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6307.

★**"Preserving History: Engaging Today's Youth Through Historical Documents":** U-M Library. Talk by Clements Library paper conservator and rare book binder Julie Fremuth. Noon-1:30 p.m., Clements Library, 909 South University. Free. 615-7876.

★**"Birds and Flowers of Washtenaw County Parks":** Women's National Farm & Garden Association. Talk by Washtenaw County Parks naturalist Faye Stoner. 12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 662-0052.

Ikebana International Chapter 183. Club member Jen Thompson leads a session of ikebana, the Japa-



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Home, Garden &

There's still plenty of *brrrrrr* ahead, but don't let the temps and the random predictions of some groundhog fool you into thinking spring isn't just around the corner—especially when it comes to getting a jump-start on planning home improvement projects. That's why the folks at BRAG—Builders & Remodelers Association of Greater Ann Arbor—hold their splendid Home, Garden & Lifestyle show every March (this year it's March 19–21 at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds). They know there may still be snow on the ground, but the timing's perfect for getting your landscaping and remodeling projects in the works. And they'll have at least 200 exhibitors on hand to help you do it.

The hallmarks of **Lotus Gardenscapes, Inc.** are creativity, quality, and beauty. Specialists in inspired landscaping design, expert installation, and caring maintenance, they can transform your yard from even the scruffiest, most uninhabitable environment to a spectacular outdoor living space with water features, garden structures, custom decks and patios, natural stonework, and a commitment to green building and design. Best of all, although the talented designers at Lotus are brimming over with great

ideas, they're good listeners, too, and will incorporate your own vision into the yard of your dreams. They love what they do—and it shows.

Taking care of your home is more than tending the garden and repainting the trim. It's also making sure you're covered in the event of fire, loss, or the neighbor's tree toppling over onto your roof. **Benz Insurance**, with offices in Washtenaw, Lenawee, and Cass counties, is committed to being involved in each community. It represents Michigan's top insurance companies—each with high financial ratings—so insured homeowners have the reassurance of knowing it's all taken care of in the event of a claim. And the caring professionals at Benz are genuinely happy to do the comparison shopping among companies for you, to find you the most competitive rates and help you determine the coverage that's right for you.

Toasting the completion of your home remodeling project is even sweeter when the project is your own gorgeous custom wine cellar. Joe Newmyer and **Classic Wine Cellars** specialize in making wine enthusiasts' dreams come true. They can take care of total design, building, and custom racking in all shapes and sizes. They'll also handle

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—Frank Lloyd Wright

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March 19-21

Lifestyle Show

management, organization, and even valuation of your wine collection for insurance purposes. Newmyer can even acquire fine vintages via auction for you through his sources in New York, Chicago, California, and Hong Kong.

At Lodi Farms, owners Jane and Dan Riddle are "plant geeks" and proud of it. They've been in the landscaping business for 24 years, during which they've supported the community and area schools, patiently answered thousands of customer questions, advocated for sustainable landscapes with native plants, and had a ball doing what they do. Their display landscapes and gardens at their nursery show you what your plantings will look like when fully mature—and they're growers as well, with a 56-acre tree farm just west of Jackson. Lodi Farms also has the distinction of offering possibly the most offbeat sales in the area—inviting customers to sing, hula hoop, or hunt down the owners' cats to qualify for discounts.

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Debra Moore of **Custom Design/Build** starts any remodeling or building project with a thorough review of your space, your routines in it, your "wish lists," your budget, your goals, your construction options, and a fascinating conversation about what might work best for you and your family. From that, she and her crew proceed to skillfully draw up designs that bring your concepts alive on paper. They then add detailed budgeting and outlining for the project, and move on to certified, supervised, and expert construction work. The result is all you imagined—and usually more.

So even when the weather still says winter, look deeper: spring has already sprung for the area's building, landscaping, and remodeling professionals. Don't miss out on the show. It's a great opportunity to learn how to bring new life to your living space.



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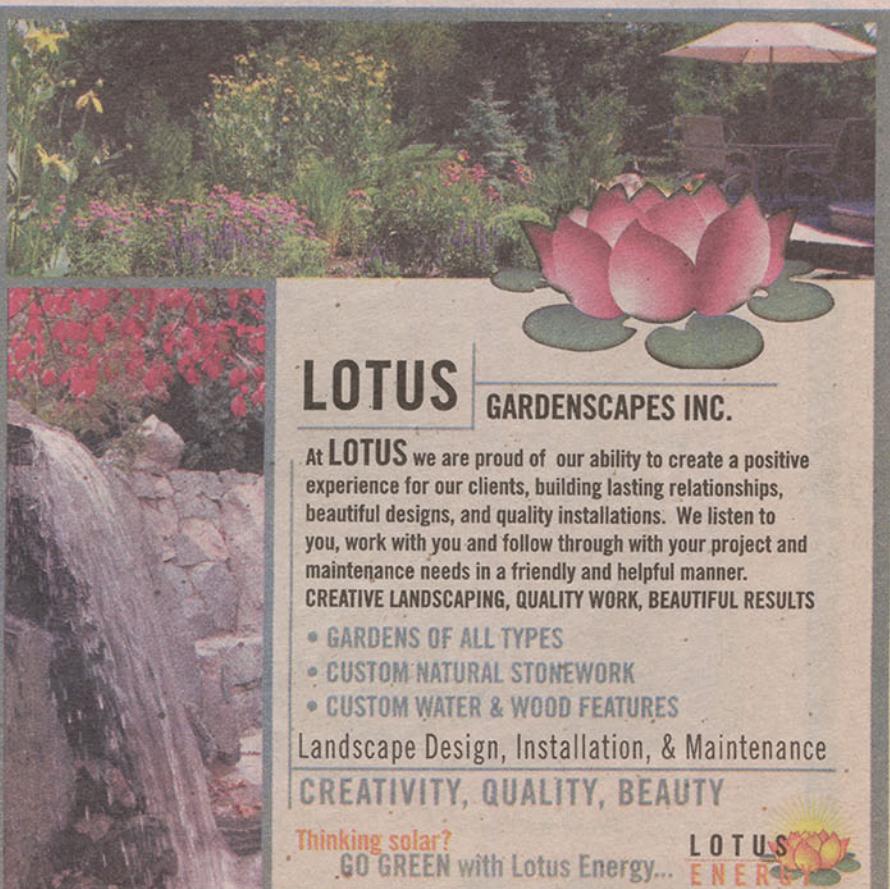
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March 19-21

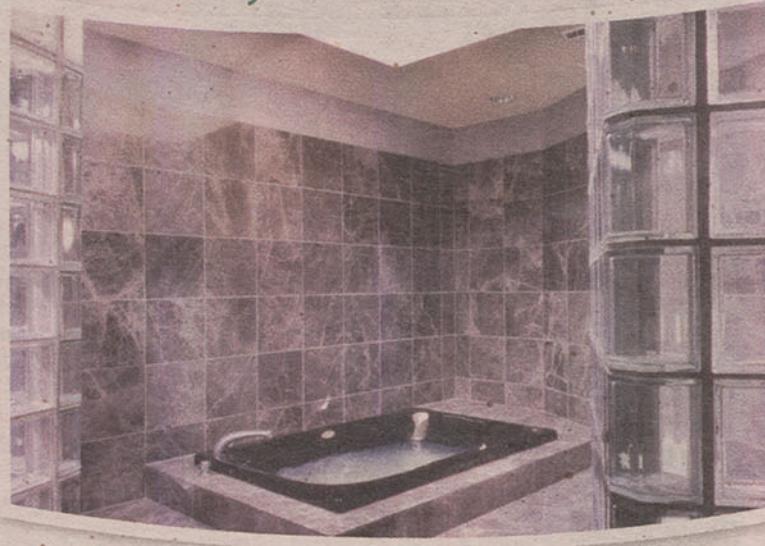
2010

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Pictured (Clockwise from top left): Custom Design/Build, Inc., Design: Architectural Resource, Photo: Liz Brauer; - New Leaf Landscaping, Photo: Peter Katke; Meadowlark Builders, Design: John Sprentall, Photo: John Baird; Acheson Builders, Inc., Design: Hobbs & Black



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Classes

Tuesdays	6:15pm to 7:05pm
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Saturdays	10:15am to 11:05am

Spring Classes – March 23 through June 5, 2010



Shooting Stars Program

Shooting Stars is an introduction to freestyle skating for badges 6 and above presented in a fun group class. Skaters will learn a freestyle routine containing jumps and spins as well as continue to improve their skating fundamentals. Off ice dance class included as part of program.

Same dates as above
Saturdays, 9:15 to 11:00am

Hockey Classes for 3 to 6 year olds!
These classes will be held on Tuesdays, 6:15pm to 7:05pm.
Classes are designed for the beginning hockey skater.
It is recommended that skaters complete the Snow Plow Sam 1 class before taking a hockey class.
Equipment is optional.

Special Registration Times
Tuesday, March 9, 5:30 to 7:30pm
Thursday, March 11, 5:30 to 7:30pm
Saturday, March 13, 9:00 to 11:30am

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galleries

The Eye of the Beholder Bewildering modernity

Visitors to the University of Michigan Museum of Art this month have the opportunity to see a stellar temporary exhibition of works on paper by some of the leading figures of the German and Viennese Expressionist movements of the early twentieth century. Expressionism is often identified with bright colors and vigorous paint strokes, with works that bring us to the very edge of representational art (think Vincent Van Gogh). Though small in size, this show concisely displays a far less vibrant view of modern life and demonstrates the great diversity of styles that co-existed within these movements.

Nearly all the works date from the calamitous years around World War I. We see this reflected in the haggard faces that populate the drawings of George Grosz and the dramatic squiggles of a restaurant scene by Ernst Kirchner, works that attempt to capture the pace and populace of the modern city. Emil Nolde's haunting *Actress* (1912), by contrast, appears immobile, and yet loose bands of diffused color evoke the light washes of city streets at night or the glare of the stage. Mo-



"Female Nude Lying on Stomach" by Christian Rohlfs

dernity, with its speed and bewildering sights, is a theme that runs through the show.

Not all the works depict urban life. A few take religious or mythological stories as their subject; while a pair of bleak landscapes transports the viewer out of the city to the countryside. There are also several nudes, some rendered with crisp, thatched lines, others more bulbous in shape. Oskar Kokoschka's *Nude with Arms Overhead* (1934), drawn in blue crayon, may be the best piece in the whole show. The patchwork

of dark blue lines and pale blue shadowing creates an effervescence of character that other nudes in the show lack. Kokoschka's work proves that, even on paper, German Expressionism could be just as bold and colorful as anything happening in France.

The Eye of the Beholder is the second show drawn from a collection that was donated to the museum in 2007 by Ernst Pulgram and his wife Frances McSparran, both former U-M professors. The collection complements the German

Expressionist works the museum already owned, several of which can be seen in the modern art galleries on the second floor. Hopefully UMMA will decide in the near future to mount a more substantial exhibit of the whole collection supplemented with the museum's holdings. Until then, this exhibit, which continues through March 14, is the best chance to catch a glimpse of one of the defining moments in the history of modern art.

—Grant Mandarino

Exhibit openings

Ann Arbor District Library, Downtown Branch (343 S. Fifth Ave.): *Ann Arbor Women Artists Spring Exhibition* (Mar. 2–Apr. 14). See 1 Monday Events listing. **Malletts Creek Branch** (3090 E. Eisenhower): *Imaginary Spaces: Painting the Abstract—Paintings by Diane Aronoff* (Mar. 18–Apr. 29). Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun., noon–6 p.m. 327–4510.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, Ypsilanti. *EMU Graduate Student Art Exhibition* (Mar. 8–26). Reception Mar. 9, 4–7 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Closed Sun. 487–1268.

EMU University Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. *Annual Student Art Exhibition* (Mar. 16–Apr. 2). Reception Mar. 17, 4–7 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Closed Sun. 487–0465.

Gallery Project, 215 S. Fourth Ave. *Mind* (Feb. 24–Mar. 28), a multimedia exhibit with works by 28 artists. Reception Feb. 26, 6–9 p.m. Tues.–Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–4 p.m. Closed Mon. 997–7012.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Photos by Melvin Fuller, Ginger Kubish, and Michael Seabrook (Mar. 3–31). Hours by appointment and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

Re-Art Gallery, ReUse Center, 2420 South Industrial. *Dreaming of a Greener World* (Mar. 22–May 1), sculpture contest entries. See 6 Saturday Events listing. Mon.–Sat. 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 662–6288.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Will Build to Suit: Assemblages by 8 Local Artists* (Mar. 4–27). Reception Mar. 6, 5–7 p.m. Thurs.–Sat. 3–9 p.m., Sun. 1:30–4 p.m. Closed Mon.–Wed. 480–2787.

U-M Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel. *15th Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners* (Mar. 23–Apr. 7). Reception Mar. 23, 5:30–8 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun. 763–3266.

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, Room 100 (enter from the Diag): *A History of the Bible from Ancient Papyri to King James* (through Mar. 31). *The Ghost Army Exhibit* (Mar. 1–31). For hours, see lib.umich.edu/hatcher-graduate-library. See 17 Wednesday Events listing. **Room 806: Exile & Utopia** (Mar. 17, 2:30–5 p.m.; Mar. 18, 2:30–9 p.m., Mar. 19, 3–5 p.m.), a book of photographs and diagrams about the 1910 Mexican Revolution by U-M art and design student Aaron Johnson-Ortiz. Reception Mar. 18, 4–9 p.m. 615–7876.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer. *Installation by Scott Hocking* (Mar. 8–May 15). Reception Mar. 11, 6–8 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun. 936–3518.

U-M Michigan Union, 530 S. State. *Dream Seed-ing for Compassionate Communities* (Mar. 2–26). See 20 Saturday Events listing. Mon.–Sat. 7 a.m.–2 a.m., Sun. 9 a.m.–2 a.m. 763–5750.

U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State. *Art, Anti-Art, Non-Art: Experiments in the Public Sphere in Postwar Japan, 1950–1970* (Mar. 27–June 6). Tues., Wed., & Sat. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri. 10 a.m.–10 p.m.; Sun. noon–5 p.m. Closed Mon. 763–UMMA.

U-M Pierpont Commons, 2101 Bonisteel. *Meanings Optional: Digital*

Composite Prints by Joseph Bergman (Mar. 2–30). Reception Mar. 14, 3–5 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 7 a.m.–midnight, Sat. & Sun. 8 a.m.–midnight. 764–7544.

U-M Slusser Gallery (U-M School of Art & Design), 2000 Bonisteel. *U-M Art & Design MFA Thesis Exhibition* (Mar. 12–Apr. 2). Reception Mar. 12, 6–9 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun. 936–2082.

U-M Warren Robbins Center (U-M School of Art & Design), Art & Architecture Building, 2000 Bonisteel. *These Branches Still Bear Fruit: Works by U-M A&D MFA Candidate Amadeaus Scott* (Mar. 12–Apr. 2). Reception Mar. 12, 6–9 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun. 764–0397.

U-M Work (U-M School of Art & Design), 306 S. State. *The Ghost in the Machine* (Mar. 19–Apr. 2). A sculptural light installation in conjunction with the Ann Arbor Film Festival (see Films). Reception Mar. 19, 6–9 p.m. Tues.–Sun. noon–7 p.m. Closed Mon. 998–6178.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *WSG Invites Family & Friends* (through Apr. 4). Reception Mar. 12, 6–9 p.m. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. Closed Mon. 761–2287.

WCC Gallery One, 1st floor of the student center bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. *Sculptures by Sergio DeGiusti* (Mar. 8–Apr. 30). Mon. & Tues. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m.–noon. Closed Sat. & Sun. 477–8512.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the 2009–2010 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or arborweb.com.



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nes art of flower arrangement. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. 1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). \$15 (members, \$8) materials fee. (248) 685–7696.

★“Conversations on Europe”: U-M Center for European Studies. Mar. 11, 18, & 25. Talks by visiting scholars. Mar. 11: Brown University modern Greek & Balkan history visiting professor Konstantinos Kornetis discusses “Past (Im)perfect or Present Continuous? The Greek and Spanish Democratic Transitions in Retrospect.” Mar. 18: European Union Delegation to the U.S. acting head Angelos Pangratis on “After Lisbon: An New Era for Europe and E.U.-U.S. Relations.” Mar. 25: Oberlin College Hispanic studies professor Sebastian Faber on “History, Memory, Fiction: The Struggle over Discursive Hegemony in the Representation of Spain’s Violent Past.” 4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.

★“The Kalevala: Adaptations of the Finnish National Epic”: Concordia University Books & Coffee Series. Concordia visiting education professor Ellie Larmouth leads a group discussion of adaptations of the *Kalevala* as well as its influence on other works, including Tolkien's epic fantasies, the 1958 film *The Day the Earth Froze*, and children's books such as Toni De Gerez's *Louhi, Witch of North Farm*, and others. 4 p.m., Concordia University Earhart Manor, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–4612.

★U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Mar. 11, 18, & 25. Talks by experts in their fields. Mar. 11: Biomimicry Guild cofounder Dayna Baumeister on “Nature’s Industry: The Role of Biomimicry in the New Green Economy.” Mar. 18: internationally recognized graphic artist Marian Bantjes on “The Cross-Pollination of Inspiration.” Mar. 25: “Thieves Like Me.” Award-winning experi-

mental German filmmaker Matthias Mueller discusses the theory and practice of found footage. 5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647–2337.

★U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Mar. 11, 18, & 25 (different programs). Readings by poets and fiction writers. Today: Poetry readings by 2 U-M creative writing grads, Darce Dennigan won the Poets Out Loud prize for her 2008 debut *Corinna A-Maying the Apocalypse*. Poet Matthea Harvey, noting that “her Saint Mary ‘cries Type O blood from her left eye,’” calls Dennigan’s poems “deliciously specific in their strangeness.” U-M poetry professor Tung-Hui Hu has a “contained surreal style that deftly shapes a philosophical argument,” says a *Los Angeles Times* review. His latest project is *The Last Time You Cried*, a sound installation of recordings from anonymous volunteers who describe the last time they cried. 5:10 p.m., UMMA Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710. 764–0395.



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Food Sessions: Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. Mar. 11, 14, 18, & 25. Talks and demos by Whole Foods staffers. Topics: "Lentils" (Mar. 11, 6 p.m.), "Celebrate the Irish: Cooking for St. Patrick's Day" (Mar. 14, 3 p.m.), "Green Smoothies in a Flash!" (Mar. 18, 5 p.m.), and "How to Prepare a Leg of Lamb" (Mar. 25, 1 p.m.). Various times, Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy. (Cranbrook Village shopping center). \$5 (includes a \$5 Whole Foods gift card). Preregistration required. 997-7500.

★Hands-On Science: Ann Arbor District Library. Hands-on science and engineering experiments and interactive demos for kids in grades K-5 presented by U-M students from the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and Proyecto Avance: Latino Mentoring Association. 6:30-7:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

"Enlightened Sexism": Ann Arbor City Club/Ann Arbor Book Festival. U-M communications professor Susan Douglas discusses her new analysis of music, movies, magazines, TV shows, and news shows that resurrect stereotypes of girls and women. Writer Jessica Valenti calls it "an all-too-important reminder that sexism, sadly, is alive and well—and that it's being sold to women as feminism." Signing. Buffet dinner. Douglas also gives a talk on her book at Nicola's Books (see 18 Thursday listing). 6:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$11.50 (includes dinner). Reservations required by Mar. 10. 662-3279.

"Stouts": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about 25-30 favorite stouts, including Irish stouts, milk stouts, chocolate stouts, coffee stouts, Russian imperial stouts, and some Belgian and experimental stouts. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. 7-9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets \$25 in advance and (if available) at the door. 213-1393.

★"Keepers of Accounts: The Practice of Inventory in Modern Jewish Culture": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies Annual David Belin Lecture. Talk by Rutgers University Jewish studies professor Jeffrey Shandler. 7 p.m., Palmer Commons Forum Hall, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 763-9047.

★"An Evening with Barbara Hammer": U-M Projectorhead. This California filmmaker, known for her experimental films on women's issues, reads from her memoir *HAMMER!: Making Movies Out of Sex and Life*. Also, a screening of some of her work. 7 p.m., 1528 C.C. Little, 425 East University. Free. 615-0445.

★2010 Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam Semifinals: Neutral Zone. Readings by young poets battling for a spot at the Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam finals (see 25 Thursday listing). Other semifinals are held at 7 p.m. at Community (Mar. 12), Pioneer (Mar. 18), and Skyline (Mar. 19) high schools. 7 p.m., Huron High School media center, 2727 Fuller Rd. Free. 214-9995.

"You Can't Take It with You": Friends of the Michigan League Dinner Theater. Mar. 11-14. Nancy Heusel directs dessert (Mar. 11) and dinner (Mar. 12-14) theater productions of Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's Pulitzer Prize-winning 1937 comedy about the classic American conflict between respectability and self-reliance. Hilarity ensues when a young woman brings home her fiance—the son of a Wall Street tycoon—to introduce him to her family, a collection of good-hearted eccentrics. The cast includes Michigan League Dinner Theater veterans Jeffrey Pickell, Steve Jones, James Kane, Roger King, Lucy Gauvin, Chris Bickley, and Lesli Weston, and U-M students Kim Craig and Nate Boyden. Part of the proceeds goes to U-M scholarships. 7 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Dessert & show tickets \$30 (students, \$15) and dinner & show tickets \$60 in advance only. For reservations, call 764-0446 (Mar. 11-13 shows) & 646-2796 (Mar. 14).

★Faculty Showcase Concert: U-M School of Music. Program TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★John Pickett: EMU Music Department. This Central Washington University piano professor performs works by Debussy, Beethoven, and Brahms, and he accompanies EMU faculty soprano Mee Ae Nam in a performance of his *Three Songs of John Pickett*. 8 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

Ray Davies: Live Nation. An evening of songs and stories by a band fronted by this veteran English rocker who's often affectionately referred to as the "Godfather of Brit Pop." Davies was the singer-songwriter frontman of the Kinks, the most stubbornly (and charmingly) English of the British Invasion bands that conquered American pop in the wake of the Beatles. The band made its name with "You Really Got Me" and other elegantly raunchy garage-rock hits, but Davies is best known for his

energetically detailed, bracingly intelligent vignettes and minidramas about English working-class life. Davies has also written rock operas, stage musicals, and TV movies. His latest project, *The Kinks Choral Connection*, is a collection of reworkings of Kinks songs by his current band and the Crouch End Festival Chorus. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$35 & \$45 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Ticketmaster.com, & all other Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

"Beyond Therapy": P.T.D. Productions. Mar. 11-14 & 18-20. Joe York directs this local theater company in Christopher Durang's tale about a bisexual man's pursuit of romantic happiness—a very funny comedy of manners that is also a savage, piercing satire of both contemporary psychotherapy and the smug shallowness of contemporary mores. Cast: Todd Minnehan, Mouse Courtois, Maria Thomas, Todd St. George, and Eric Bloch. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$16 (students & seniors, \$11; Thurs., pay what you can; group rates available) in advance and at the door. 483-7345.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. Mar. 11-14. David Andrews directs local actors in Tim Kelly's drama based on Arthur Conan Doyle's classic Sherlock Holmes novel in which the brilliant, enigmatic sleuth and his loyal sidekick Dr. Watson travel to the English countryside, where the locals believe a mythic hound is fulfilling an ancient family curse. Stars Tom Underwood and Jon Elliott. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets \$18 (seniors, \$16; students, \$10; Thurs., \$14) in advance at a2ct.org or by calling 971-2228.

"It Came from Mars": Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Mar. 11-13. Up-and-coming New York City comic whose act is a fast-paced blend of self-deprecating storytelling with mordantly irreverent observational one-liners. He was one of the principal writers for Morgan Spurlock's satirical documentary *Supersize Me*. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all Fri. & Sat. early shows are nonsmoking. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

12 FRIDAY

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Mar. 12 & 26. A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1-3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. This month's topics: "Dinosaurs" (Mar. 12) and "Under the Sea" (Mar. 26). 9:30-11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$6. 997-1553.

★"Bring It Back Take It Forward: Celebrating 50 Years of Activism": U-M. Mar. 12-14. This conference celebrating activism in southeastern Michigan is highlighted by simultaneous activist panel discussions (7-10 p.m.) on Mar. 12 & 13. On Mar. 12 one panel features United Farm Workers president Arturo Rodriguez, Center for Economic and Policy Research codirector (and former Ann Arbor congressional candidate) Dean Baker, and U-M student activist Yousef Rahbi, and the other features University of Illinois-Chicago education professor (and former Weather Underground militant) William Ayers, veteran peace and justice activist Rick Feldman, and Michigan Peaceworks executive director Laura Russello. On Mar. 13, one panel features former local Human Rights Party activist Nancy Romer and veteran Detroit community activist Yousef Shakur, and a young activists panel features members of Drag King Rebellion, Gayrilla, and Riot Youth. The Mar. 12 schedule also includes panels on environmental issues (10 a.m.-noon), health activism (1-3 p.m.), and immigration rights (3:15-5 p.m.), and the Mar. 13 program includes panels on LGBT issues (9-11 a.m.), the drug war (9-10:30 a.m.), alternative media (10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.), feminist issues (1-3 p.m.), and peace issues (3:15-5 p.m.). The conference concludes on Mar. 14 with an open discussion at a "Take It Forward Session." Entertainment TBA. For detailed schedule, see ssw.umich.edu/BIBTIF. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. (Mar. 12), 9 a.m.-10 p.m. (Mar. 13), & Noon until whenever (Mar. 14). U-M Rackham Bldg. Free. 717-5634.

★Noon Lecture Series: U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Mar. 12 & 16. Talks by U-M scholars. Mar. 12: psychiatrist Roseanne Armitage on "Sex Differences and Risk for Major Depression." Mar. 16: curator Julie Herrada on "From Petticoats to Pedal Pushers: Bad Ass Ladies in the Labadie Collection." Noon-1:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 763-2047.

★“Localizing International Human Rights Laws”: U-M Center for International & Comparative Studies. Talk by Human Rights Center of Chapel Hill & Carrboro (NC) director Judith Blau, author of *Societies without Borders: Human Rights & the Social Sciences*. Noon, 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 764-2268.

★U-M Center for South Asian Studies Lecture Series. Mar. 12, 19, & 26. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Mar. 12: U-M law professor Vikramaditya Khanna on “Enforcing Legal Rights in India: Judicial Reform.” Mar. 19: University of Wisconsin Asian languages and cultures professor Preeti Chopra on “Macaulay’s Man and Engineering Colonial Bombay.” Mar. 26: Jamia Millia Islamia (New Delhi) history professor Seema Alavi on “Fugitive Mullahs and Outlawed Fanatics: Indian Muslims in 19th-Century Trans-Asiatic Imperial Rivalries.” 4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 615-4612.

Empire Brass: Concordia University. Performance by this renowned Boston University quintet-in-residence. “They simply have no competition when it comes to the beauty and clarity and accuracy and balance and interaction of their playing,” says the *Boston Globe*. “The first phrase of any Empire Brass performance ... sends a thrill of pleasure through your nervous system.” 4 p.m., Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes Rd. at Earhart. Tickets \$10-15 in advance at cuua.edu/kreftarts, and (if available) at the door. 995-4612.

★Musicology Lectures: U-M School of Music. Mar. 12 & 26. Talks by visiting scholars. Mar. 12: “Appreciating Arlen.” Columbia University music professor Walter Frisch discusses Harold Arlen, the American composer who wrote “Somewhere Over the Rainbow.” Mar. 26: “Peircean Thought as Core Theory for Ethnomusicology.” University of Illinois musicology professor Tom Turino discusses the importance of 19th-century semiotician Charles Peirce in understanding connections between musical sounds and social life. 5 p.m., 506 Burton Memorial Tower. Free. 764-0594.

★“Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition Ride Around Town”: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Slow-paced ride in a figure-8 loop around the downtown. 6 p.m., Liberty Plaza, Liberty at Division. Free. 995-1989.

“You Can’t Take It with You”: Friends of the Michigan League. See 11 Thursday. 6:30 p.m.

U-M Women’s Gymnastics vs. Georgia. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths age 12 & under, \$1; U-M students, free). 763-2159.

★Crazy Wisdom Reading Circle: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to discuss bio-intensive agriculture pioneer John Jeavons’ *How to Grow More Vegetables*. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★“School of Hard Knocks: Funny and Insightful Tales”: Ann Arbor District Library. An evening of storytelling for adults featuring funny and touching stories of a girl’s education presented by 2 popular local storytellers, AADL director Josie Barnes Parker and AADL youth librarian Laura Pershin Raynor, a former National Storyteller of the Year. They are joined by local guitarists and banjoists Betsy Beckerman and Sara Melton Keller. In conjunction with Women’s History Month. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★Joss Ware: Waters Place Borders. This local writer, a U-M grad, reads from *Abandon the Night*, the 3rd novel in her series of paranormal romances about a futuristic world controlled by deadly immortals. This time, only one thing stands in the way of the hero’s quest for revenge: a beautiful bellicose woman. Signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997-8884.

“Help Haiti! A Benefit Talent Show for Earthquake Victims in Haiti”: Community Action Network/Bryant Community Youth. Family-friendly talent show with acts TBA. Proceeds benefit Catholic Relief Services emergency fund for Haiti. 7 p.m., Tappan Middle School, 2251 E. Stadium at Packard. Tickets \$2 at the door only. 477-0292.

Impact Dance: University Activities Center. Mar. 12 & 13. This 12-member all-female student company presents an energetic, varied program of original dances that range from lyrical jazz to hip-hop and tap. Also, performances by the U-M a cappella octet the Friars and the improv comedy group Comeo. 7 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets \$8 (students, \$7) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and at the door. \$2 discount for advance student tickets. 763-TKTS.

★Student Songwriter Showcase: The Ark. Performances by 3 U-M student singer-songwriters, Hana Malhas, Chris Dupont, and Katie Lee. 7 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 761-1451.

“Funky Frosty Friday”: Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. Public skating under mirrored balls to themed music. Also, costume contests. Today: “St.

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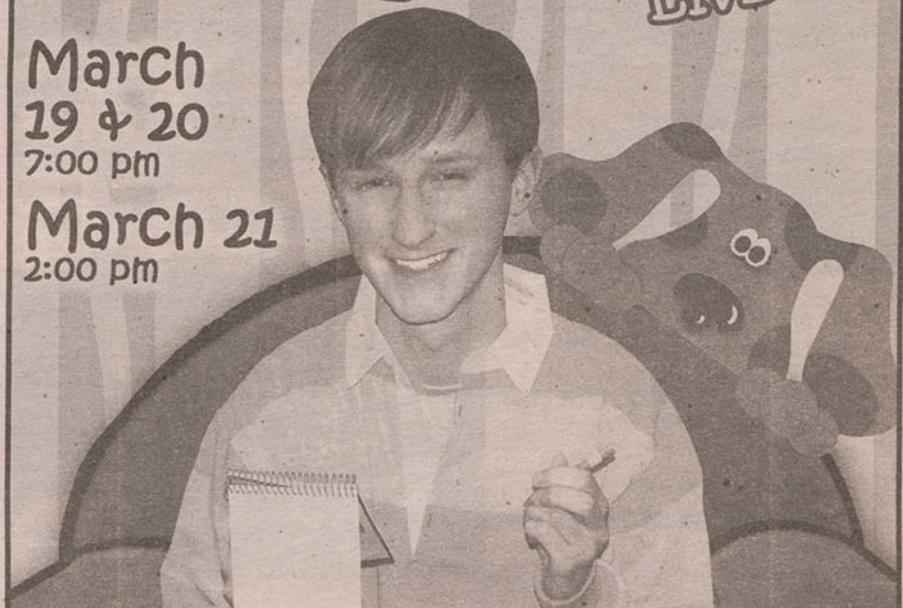
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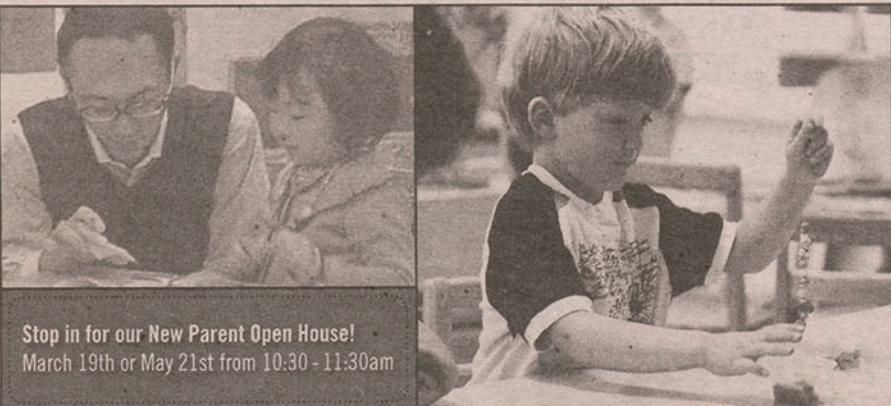
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★**Older Lesbians Organizing.** All lesbians invited to read and discuss their favorite poems or ones they've written. 7:30 p.m., WRAP office (upstairs), 319 Braun Ct. Free. 995-9867.

★**"Unity in Duality: The Psychology of Indo-Tibetan Buddhism":** Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. Talk by Lene Handberg, a Danish psychotherapist who cofounded the educational system Unity in Duality with her late mentor Tarab Tulku Rinpoche. 7:30 p.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994-3387.

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Caller TBA. Music by Atossa Kramer, Susie Lorand, and Steve Schneider. For experienced dancers. 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3329 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$10. (248) 288-4737.

★**Chamber Winds: EMU Music Department.** Mary K. Schneider directs this music student ensemble in a program of wind and percussion music TBA. 8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**Symphony Band: U-M School of Music.** Michael Haithcock conducts this music student ensemble in Turina's *La Procession du Rocio*, Strauss's *Symphonie for Winds ("Cheerful Workshop")*, Maslanka's *Traveler*, and Grainger's *Duke of Marlborough Fanfare*, *Mock Morris*, *Irish Tune from County Derry*, *Molly on the Shore*, and "Gum Sucker's March." Preceded at 7:15 p.m. by a lecture on the program. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

Kate Olson Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. Experimental jazz by this local quartet led by saxophonist Olson. Other members include trumpeter Ingrid Racine, bassist Andrew Kratzat, and drummer Tim Cohen. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Diverse: Canterbury House. Performance by this award-winning young Kansas City jazz ensemble. They have a brand new self-titled album. 8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. \$10 (students & seniors, \$5). 761-3162.

Kat Eggleston: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Veteran Chicago folksinger with a pure, powerful alto voice whose songs balance a melodic sweetness with a sharp-witted emotional directness. She accompanies herself on guitar and hammered dulcimer. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 11 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Beyond Therapy": P.T.D. Productions. See 11 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"It Came from Mars": Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 11 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society.** Mar. 12 & 26. All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. 9-11 p.m., 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left). Free. 764-3440.

Benefit Dance Party: Permanent Green Light. Dancing to music spun by a DJ. Proceeds benefit the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee. 10 p.m.-2 a.m., James L. Crawford Elks Lodge, 220 W. Sunset. \$3. 272-9513.

13 SATURDAY

★**Ecosystem Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum.** Mar. 13 & 20. All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove woody invasive shrubs. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided, or bring your own. 9 a.m.-noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Mar. 13), 1610 Washington Hts. & Matthaei (Mar. 20), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Registration requested. 647-7600.

Girl Power Invitational: GymAmerica Gymnastics. Mar. 13 & 14. Young gymnasts from throughout Michigan and Ohio are featured in nonsanctioned pre-competitive and sanctioned early-competitive level competitions. In conjunction with an EMU gymnastics competition (7 p.m.) that raises money for breast cancer research. 9 a.m.-evening, EMU

Bowen Field House, Ypsilanti. \$10 (seniors & kids, \$5). 971-1667.

Huron Gun Collectors. Mar. 13 & 14. About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment, including antiques and collectibles for sale. Concessions. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Admission \$4. (517) 605-0624.

★**"Natural Health Fair": Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor.** Presentations and demos on a range of topics, including healthy childhood practices, chiropractic care, herbal supplements, homeopathics, essential oils, and more. Also, a chance to chat with local natural health care practitioners. Sale of natural health products. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner High School, 2230 Pontiac Trail. Free. 669-9394.

Children of the Earth Club: Leslie Science and Nature Center. All kids in grades 2 & above invited to join local singer-songwriter and environmental educator Joe Reilly in nature songs and environmentally themed games and outdoor activities. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$8. (family, \$30). 997-1533.

★**"Winter Adventure Saturdays": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens.** Mar. 13 & 20. All kids, accompanied by a parent, invited for crafts activities. Mar. 13: "Fanciful Fairy Gardens," a chance to search for fairies in the conservatory and build a fairy garden to take home. Mar. 20: "Art That Keeps You Smart," a scavenger hunt and a chance to sketch on the trails and try watercolor painting. 10 a.m.-noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. \$5 per child (includes conservatory admission). Preregistration required. 647-7600.

★Materials Recovery Facility Monthly Open House: Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department. All invited to make a mosaic tile with found art, recycled glass pieces, and other durable items. Guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center. 10 a.m.-noon, Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994-2807.

★**"Saturday Morning Physics": U-M Physics Department.** Mar. 13, 20, & 27. Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M faculty. Mar. 13: physics professor Leo Pando Zayas on "Black Holes and Chaos in String Theory." Mar. 20: physics professor Stephen Forrest on "Plastics—Can They Be Used to Save the Planet?" Mar. 27: paleontology professor Daniel Fisher on "The Inside Story on Lyuba, a Baby Woolly Mammoth from Siberia." 10:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 500 Church. Free. 764-4437.

★**"Speech & Language Development of Infants & Toddlers": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Lamaze Center of Ann Arbor board chair Patricia Milgrom. 10:30-11:30 a.m., AADL Mallett's Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★**"Bunny Arrival": Briarwood Mall.** Every Sat. & Sun., Mar. 13-Apr. 3. A chance to visit the Easter Bunny and pet goats, chicks, regular bunnies, and other baby farm animals. 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Briarwood center court. Free. 769-9610.

Justin Roberts & the Not Ready for Naptime Players: The Ark. Family concert by this acclaimed ensemble led by Roberts, a Minneapolis indie rock singer-songwriter turned Montessori preschool teacher. The band has been a big hit everywhere from Symphony Space in New York to Lollapalooza, and its CD *Not Naptime* was named by *Parents' Choice* as one of the 25 best kids CDs of the past 25 years. The band also has an acclaimed new CD, *Pop Fly*. 11 a.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$12.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★**52nd Annual Southeast Michigan Science Fair.** Display of 400 science projects by area middle and high school students. The middle school division includes models, collections, and experiments. The senior division includes projects involving biochemistry, microbiology, botany, chemistry, geology, the environment, math, computer science, physics, sociology, and zoology. The top 2 individual and team winners go to the Intel International Science Fair, held in May in San Jose, CA. Noon-4 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 615-4455.

★**"The Red Belly Boardshop Grinds of March": Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee.** See "On a Roll," p. 9. Family-friendly indoor skate jam featuring both "street" and half-pipe skateboard contests for beginning, intermediate, and advanced skaters. Helmets required. Also, a skateboarding demo by 8-time skateboarding world champion Andy Macdonald. Music by Chicago DJ (and former pro skater) Johnny Fonseca and by local DJs Forest Juziuk, Chuck Sipperly, and Raj Mahal. Also, during the final skate jam, a performance by Mazinga, a veteran Ypsilanti band that plays rough, raw, Detroit-style

jazz

Randy Weston's African Rhythms Trio

Marrakesh and back

In more than six decades of public performance, pianist Randy Weston has followed his own singular path. Never one of the more popular entertainers, he has, nevertheless, created a very personal musical approach that transcends any particular style. Weston was born and raised in Brooklyn, where he inhaled the sounds of swing and bebop, influenced as much by Count Basie and Duke Ellington as by modern jazz pianists, including his cousin Wynton Kelly. The man who impressed him most, however, was the idiosyncratic Thelonious Monk. Weston spent three years learning informally from him, and while he never directly imitated Monk's inimitable approach to the piano, the relationship left a strong mark on Weston's musical sensibilities.

Like Monk, Weston developed his playing and compositional skills in parallel fashion, and he also learned that the piano is not only a melodic and harmonic instrument but also a percussive one. Weston, like Monk, is a very big man, in whose hands the piano keyboard seems veritably to shrink. The title of one of his better-known compositions, "Hi-Fly," apparently reflects his perspective, looking at the ivories down below.

In the late fifties and early sixties Weston led small groups, perhaps the best of which was a sextet that included the great saxophonist Booker Ervin. This combo, like his other ones, mainly played his own compositions and arrangements, some of which, like "Little Niles" and "Hi-Fly," became jazz standards.

But then he traveled to North Africa, and this experience affected him so strongly that he returned there and stayed in the Moroccan town of Marrakesh for three years. Weston's father had instilled in him a pride in his African ancestry; as a result, the pianist had long been interested in African music, history,



and spirituality (as early as 1954, he composed a song entitled "Zulu"). In Marrakesh he began working closely with musicians from the Gnawa minority who practice a Sufi-influenced form of Islam and use music and dance to induce trance states.

The encounter with Africa did not so much change Weston's music as bring into focus elements that were already there. He no longer refers to his music as "jazz," but only as African rhythms, and this rhythmic thrust has come to the fore in his piano playing, harkening back to the ideas he absorbed as a young man from Monk. For many years Weston has been performing in tandem with bassist Alex Blake and African percussionist Neil Clarke. This is not the standard jazz piano trio in which bass and drums create a background for the melodic and harmonic explorations of the main instrument. Rather, the lead keeps shifting between the three members, and often it seems that there are three rhythm instruments. They will be at Kerrystown Concert House on Saturday, March 20.

—Piotr Michalowski

rock 'n' roll. Food & beverages for sale. Noon–6 p.m., 704 Airport Pl. \$10 entry fee, \$5 suggested donation for spectators. 223–9837.

22nd Annual Wild Game Dinner: Ann Arbor Elks Lodge. Appetizers and a buffet dinner (4 p.m.) that offers a chance to sample rabbit, deer, moose, and other wild meats. Door prizes and a raffle. Proceeds benefit local charities. 12:30 p.m. Elks Lodge, 4420 Jackson Ave. Tickets \$10 in advance and at the door. 663–1105.

"Nature's Whodunit": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Leslie Science and Nature Center staff lead a family-oriented hike to look for signs of animals in the wild—and figure out what made them. 1–3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$8 (family, \$30). 997–1533.

Cyro Baptista's Beat the Donkey: University Musical Society. Brazilian percussionist Baptista leads his 10-piece world-music percussion ensemble in a family-friendly performance that mixes funk, samba, gamelans, breakbeats, heavy metal, tap dance, capoeira, jazz, and more. The group plays with "manic energy and irrepressible fun," says an *All About Jazz* review. "It serves as an effective antidote to overly cerebral and self-consciously serious music." 1 & 4 p.m., Power Center. \$16 (kids, \$8) in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.

Waterloo Natural History Association: Mar. 13 & 27. A variety of natural history programs. Mar. 13: "Maple Syrup Making: From the Tree to the Pancake." Following a screening of the film *Maple Sugar Farmer*, WNHA naturalist Tom Jameson explains his do-it-yourself maple syrup making techniques and leads a short walk to show how to identify maple syrup trees and to demonstrate tree-tapping techniques. Mar. 27: "Frozen Frogs and Tropical Rainforests." Naturalist Endeavors (Columbiaville,

MI) owner Randy Baker displays and discusses an array of rainforest animals from the Americas and explains why healthy habitats in Michigan are important for their survival. 1:30–3 p.m. (Mar. 13) & 2–3 p.m. (Mar. 27), Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. \$2 (family, \$5). \$6 vehicle entry fee. 475–3170.

★"Museum Discoveries": Ann Arbor District Library. U-M Exhibit Museum of Natural History staff show kids in grades K–5 how historians and scientists who work for museums collect, study, and exhibit their discoveries. 2–3:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.

★"Tradition Transformed: Chang Ku-nien, Master Painter of the 20th Century": UMMA. Mar. 13 & 28. Docent-led tour of this current exhibit. 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.

"Saturday Social Dance": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. A variety of vintage dances to recorded music. No partner necessary. Preceded at 1 & 2 p.m. by lessons. 3:15–4:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$5 (dance with lesson, \$7). 213–0537.

★University Lowbrow Astronomers: Mar. 13 & 20. A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through Peach Mountain Observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope and other instruments. Participants encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. Sunset–12:30 a.m. or as long as the sky remains clear, Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1 1/4 miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.

Malaysian Cultural Night: U-M Malaysian Students Association. Malaysian food, traditional games

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and activities, and performances that showcase contemporary Malaysian culture. 6:30-9:30 p.m., U-M Angell Hall, 435 S. State. Free. umimsa.com

"You Can't Take It with You": Friends of the Michigan League. See 11 Thursday. 6:30 p.m.

Impact Dance: University Activities Center. See 12 Friday. 7 p.m.

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Singles and couples invited. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. 8-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. \$5. 822-2120.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Beginners welcome. 8 p.m., Webster Community Hall, 5665 Webster Church Rd. between Joy and North Territorial, Dexter. \$8. 408-1829, 996-8359.

U-M Men's Glee Club & Harvard Men's Glee Club: U-M School of Music. These 2 glee clubs perform Renaissance songs, contemporary American songs, and folk songs from around the world to celebrate both clubs' 150th anniversaries. 8 p.m., St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, State at Kingsley. Tickets (price TBA) at umich.edu/~ummgc. 764-1448.

"American Celebration": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in Pulitzer Prize-winning composer (and retired U-M professor) William Bolcom's *Seattle Slew: Three Dances in Forequarter Time*, Dvorak's Symphony no. 9 ("From the New World") and Gershwin's Piano Concerto in F Major with acclaimed pianist Arkadiy Figlin. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$6-\$49 (includes discounts for piano teachers, seniors, and students; Pioneer, Huron, and Skyline High School music and humanities students, free) in advance at the AASO office (220 E. Huron, suite 470) and a2so.com, and (if available) at the door. 994-4801.

Alberto Rojo Trio: Kerrystown Concert House. This ensemble led by Rojo—an acclaimed Argentine guitarist who has recorded with Mercedes Sosa, his self-proclaimed "number one fan"—plays Argentinian folk songs, jazz standards with a South American flair, and more. With local bassist Andrew Kratz and U-M percussion professor Michael Gould. Proceeds benefit Inflammatory Bowel Disease research. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$30 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Lady Sunshine & the X Band: JAZDance. Dancing to this local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style is something of a cross between Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle. Also, beginning dance lesson at 8 p.m. 8 p.m.-midnight, Michigan League Ballroom. \$15. 945-3723.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 11 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Beyond Therapy": P.T.D. Productions. See 11 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"It Came from Mars": Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 11 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 6 Saturday. 9 p.m.

"One Day Runway": U-M Basement Arts. 8 U-M students present a live fashion show of designs they've completed in the last 24 hours. A panel of judges chooses the winners. 11 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement.studentorgs.umich.edu

14 SUNDAY

"Washtenaw Waterfowl": Washtenaw Audubon Society. WAS member Dea Armstrong leads a carpool trek to Ford Lake and other sites around the county to look for and identify waterfowl. Bring a spotting scope if you have one and snacks or a lunch. Canceled if area lakes & ponds are still mostly frozen. 8 a.m. (early afternoon return), meet at Briarwood mall parking lot area #6 (near Sears). Free. 668-2513.

"Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship": Mar. 14 & 28. Mar. 14: AAUF member Arthur Radcliffe discusses "Jung's Types and the Elephant Fable." Mar. 28: Elizabeth Vouvakis discusses Mary Beth Pfeiffer's *Crazy in America: The Hidden Tragedy of Our Criminalized Mentally Ill*. 10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 994-4473.

"Shamrocks and Shenanigans 5K": Running Fit/Conor O'Neill's. 4-lap 5-km race and walk that starts and finishes at Conor O'Neill's on Main Street. Also, a 1-km run and a 200-m dash for kids. Awards to male and female winners in each age division. Inside Conor O'Neill's following the race, face painting, bagpipers, Irish music and dancing, and more. Proceeds benefit Mott Children's Hospital. 11

a.m. (kids races) & 11:30 a.m. (5-km race & walk), **Conor O'Neill's**, 318 S. Main. \$25 in advance at runshamrocks.com, \$30 day of race. Kids races: \$12 (1-km) & \$7 (dash) in advance at runshamrocks.com, \$16 (1-km) & \$10 (dash) day of race. 929-9027.

★**"Exploring Quakerism": Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse.** Mar. 14, 21, & 28. 3 local Quakers discuss their experiences. Followed by Q&A and a light lunch. Topics: "Experiencing Quaker Worship" (Mar. 14), "Quakers and Peace" (Mar. 21), and "Quakers and Earthcare" (Mar. 28) 12:30-2 p.m., 1416 Hill. Free. 475-0942.

★**"Free Flighting": Ann Arbor Companion Bird Club.** All invited to bring their flighted birds to teach them how to fly out and return to their owners. 1-3:30 p.m., **Animal Kingdom**, 4990 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 662-4582.

★**"Chessastic!": Ann Arbor District Library.** Everyone from kindergartners to adults invited to play chess. Chess sets provided. 1-4 p.m., **AADL Traverwood Branch**, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Raising Cactus & Succulents from Seed": Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society.** All invited to join a discussion. 1-4 p.m., **U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens**, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. (248) 790-9089.

★**"Teacup Paphiopedilums": Ann Arbor Orchid Society.** Littlefrog Farm (Stockbridge) owner Robert Halgren discusses a new breeding trend in this tropical ladyslipper genus towards smaller species and hybrids that grow well under lights. Also, an orchid show-and-tell, orchid sales, raffle, and a chance to ask experts about plant problems. 1:45 p.m., **U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens auditorium**, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663-0756.

★**"Ketchup, Mustard, & Salad Dressing": Preserving Traditions.** All invited to make and sample basic condiments. Bring ½ cup vinegar, ½ cup oil, and a few small jars if you want to take home samples. Other ingredients provided 2-4 p.m., **Pittsfield Grange**, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), \$5 (Grange members, free). 997-8844.

★**"The Incredible Art of Cake Making": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by local cake artist Heather Anne Leavitt, a cook at the Kerrystown restaurant Evé. 2-3 p.m., **AADL Pittsfield Branch**, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4200.

★**"100 Years of Concert Programs and Photographs Online": Ann Arbor District Library.** University Musical Society president Ken Fischer discusses UMS history and demonstrates the new collection of UMS archival material at aadl.org. 2-4 p.m., **AADL multipurpose room**, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. 2-5 p.m., **The Ark**, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678-7549, 761-1451.

★**Friends of Four-Hand Piano.** Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. 2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 971-6261, 485-5007.

★**Awards Recital: Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild.** Performances by student pianists. 2 p.m., **KCH**, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 428-8687.

★**"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company.** See 3 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

★**"Beyond Therapy": P.T.D. Productions.** See 11 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"The Hound of the Baskervilles": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre.** See 11 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"It Came from Mars": Performance Network Professional Season.** See 4 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Secrets to Chinese Painting: Technical Strategies for the Modern World": UMMA.** Lecture by Brandeis University east Asian studies professor Aida Yuen Wong. 3 p.m., **UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium**, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★**Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater.** See 7 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★**Choir Salzburg Concert: Huron High School.** The Huron High A Cappella Choir and Bel Canto Choir celebrate their upcoming trip to Salzburg with a program TBA. 4 p.m., **First Baptist Church**, 512 E. Huron. Free. 994-2040.

★**"Star-Spangled Music": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra.** Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a family-friendly program of patriotic music. Preceded at 2:30 p.m. in the lobby by a "String Instrument Petting Zoo" and other kids activities. Program: the Largo from Dvorak's *New World Symphony*, Souza's "Stars and Stripes Forever," Gershwin's "I Got

Rhythm" and "Fascinating Rhythm," "Derby Dressage" from William Bolcom's *Seattle Slew*, Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man*, Joan Tower's *Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman*, "Humor" from William Grant Still's *Afro-American Symphony*, and a *West Side Story* medley. 4 p.m., **Michigan Theater**. Tickets \$15 (kids, \$6) in advance at the **AASO office** (220 E. Huron, suite 470) and aaso.com, and (if available) at the door. 994-4801.

★**"Rainbow Book Club": All invited to discuss *The Mandrake Broom*, Jess Wells's historical novel, set in medieval Europe, about a woman who fights her witch-burning culture to save medical knowledge. 4:30-6 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763-4168.**

★**Tony Arnold & Movses Pogossian: Kerrystown Concert House.** This duo of internationally recognized soprano Arnold and award-winning violinist Pogossian performs Gyorgy Kurtág's *Kafka's Fragments*, a setting of 40 Kafka excerpts. 4:30 p.m., **KCH**, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★**"You Can't Take It with You": Friends of the Michigan League Dinner Theater.** See 11 Thursday. 6:30 p.m.

★**"A Nuclear-Free Middle East": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice.** A presentation by a speaker TBA, followed by discussion. The program is preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). 7 p.m., **Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church**, 2309 Packard. Free. 663-1870.

★**"New Voice in Russian Theater: An Introduction to Playwright Maxsym Kurochkin": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** Mar. 14, 16, & 17 (different programs & locations). Three days of staged readings and discussions of plays by Maksym Kurochkin, a renowned contemporary Moscow-based Russian playwright whose new work is featured this month at the prestigious Louisville Humana Fest. Today: U-M Residential College drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff directs RC students in a staged reading of Kurochkin's *The Schooling of Bento Bontsov*, a satire, set in a future when sex is understood only by anthropologists, about a grad student of sexual studies who concludes that sex is all a sham even as he himself is falling in love. Followed by a discussion of contemporary Russian drama by RC guest dramaturg Leonora Ivanitsky. 7 p.m., **U-M Keene Theater**, East Quad off Willard between Church and East University. Free. 647-4354.

★**Cellothon Concert: EMU Music Department.** Phoenix Ensemble cellist Derek Snyder directs an orchestra of EMU students and professors and area professionals in the culminating concert of a 2-day workshop. The program features his arrangements and transcriptions for cello orchestra. 7:30 p.m., **EMU Pease Auditorium**, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**Concert Band: U-M School of Music.** Rodney Dorsey conducts this music student ensemble in Copland's *Outdoor Adventure*, Carter Pann's *Hold This Boy and Listen*, Samuel Zyman's *Cycles*, and Giannini's *Symphony no. 3*. 7:30 p.m., **Hill Auditorium**. Free. 764-0594.

★**"Music for Contemplation": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.** See 7 Sunday. Tonight: Timothy Tinker directs the St. Thomas Catholic Church Schola Gregoriana in a program of liturgical music. 7:30 p.m.

★**"Beethoven Piano Concerti": U-M School of Music.** Dana Sadava conducts pianist Hye-Won Jung and other students in Beethoven's Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in G Major. Eiki Eisomura conducts pianist SunAh Lee and other students in Beethoven's Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in E-Flat Major. 8 p.m., **U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall**, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★**Playgroups for Babies: Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Mon. beginning Mar. 15. Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. Note: Playgroups are also offered (beginning the week of Mar. 15) at the Malletts Creek (Tues., 10-11 a.m., & Thurs., 6:30-7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed., 11 a.m.-noon), and Traverwood (Fri., 10:30-11:30 a.m.) branches. 10:30-11:30 a.m., **AADL**, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301 (main library), 327-4200 (branches).

★**Gail Scott: EMU English Department Bathhouse Reading Series.** Reading by this acclaimed Montreal fiction writer known for her tense, lyrical explorations of the psyches of women struggling with the question of their own identity. 5 p.m., **EMU Student Center Auditorium**, 900 Oakwood (between Washtenaw & N. Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Free. 487-1310.

★**Embroiderers Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. 7 p.m., **United Way**,

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★**Nonfiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of Jerry Dennis's *The Living Great Lakes: Searching for the Heart of the Inland Seas*, the 2010 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads book. Refreshments. 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**"Playing Ball with Legends: The Story and Stories of Don Lund": Nicola's Books.** Former Detroit Tiger outfielder and U-M baseball coach **Don Lund** and **James Irwin** discuss Irwin's new book about Lund's baseball career. Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**"Playfest 2010": U-M Theatre Department.** Mar. 15-20. A series of free rehearsed staged readings of plays by students of U-M theater professor Charles "OyamO" Gordon, a well-known playwright who moderates postperformance critiques. Today: Matt Bouse's *Living Dead*, a drama about a high-strung couple who find their shaky marriage at stake when their dinner party plans are disrupted by the mysterious arrival of a stack of pizzas at their front door. 7 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin. Free. 764-5350.

★**"Dear Doctor": The Ayerst Lab First Day Covers and Their Contents": Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** Club member Tim Johnson gives an illustrated talk about the 1950s drug company that mailed physicians advertisements for the drugs they manufactured in envelopes commemorating the 1st day of issue of the postage stamps on them. Also, a mini stamp auction and American Philatelic Society circuit books. 7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761-5859.

★**Kath Frajbis: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** This local printmaker discusses her work exploring the relationship between humans and landscapes. 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 483-1897.

★**"Identification of Trees in Winter": Michigan Botanical Club.** Slide-illustrated talk by Royal Oak Nature Society botanist Don Drife. 7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. (810) 923-5860.

★**Trio Solari: U-M School of Music.** U-M clarinet professor Chad Burrow leads his trio in a program highlighted by Stravinsky's *L'histoire du Soldat*, a challenging musical version of a Faustian Russian folktale. The program also includes trios by Milhaud, Khachaturian, and Bartok. Other musicians include University of Houston violin professor Sean Wang and U-M piano professor Amy Cheng. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

Takacs Quartet: University Musical Society. This renowned 26-year-old ensemble of 2 Hungarian and 2 British "string alchemists" is known for its warmth, eloquence, and discipline, and for the ease with which it masters demanding pieces. According to a *Guardian* (London) review of the quartet's current Beethoven program, "Each performance became a journey of exploration for the audience, not only to rediscover the astonishing variety of Beethoven's invention in these works, but also some of the multitude of ways of interpreting it." Program: Beethoven's String Quartet in B-Flat Major and String Quartet in F Major, and *A Cool Wind*, a new work by New Zealand composer John Psathas. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. \$22-\$46 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

16 TUESDAY

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Tues. & Wed. beginning Mar. 16. Stories and songs for kids age 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). Note: These storytimes are also offered beginning the week of Mar. 15 at the Malletts Creek (Wed. 10-10:30 a.m.), Traverwood (Tues. 11-11:30 a.m., Wed. 6-6:30 p.m., and Thurs. 10-10:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. 7-7:30 p.m., and Fri. 10-10:30 a.m.) branches. 10-10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11-11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301 (main library), 327-4200 (branches).

★**U-M School of Public Health Lectures.** Mar. 16 & 25. Talks by U-M scholars. Topics: "The Protest Psychosis: How Schizophrenia Became a Black Disease" (Mar. 16) and "Spaces of Gendered Vulnerability: A Missing Link in Global Reproductive Health" (Mar. 25). 2 p.m. (Mar. 16) & 3:30 p.m. (Mar. 25), 1690 SPH I, 1415 Washington Hts. Free. 647-6665 (Mar. 16), 936-1257 (Mar. 25).

★**"Fluid Empires: Water Management across the French Mediterranean": U-M International Institute Science, Technology, & Society Program.** Talk by Cornell University science & technology studies professor Sara Pritchard. 4-5:30 p.m., 1014 Tisch, 435 S. State. Free. 647-3766.

★**Grand Opening: The Orpheum.** Talk by 107one DJ Martin Bandyke and a performance by the local funk-rock band Sole Transit to celebrate the opening of this teen-operated recording studio. Also, studio tours and refreshments. 4-7 p.m., The Orpheum, enter at the Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214-9995.

★**Lori Nix: EMU Art Department.** Talk by this photographer who is best known for her photos of carefully constructed, realistic sets. Her recent projects, "Lost" and "The City," depict postapocalyptic urban spaces. 6 p.m., EMU Student Center Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-1077.

★**"Beefsteak Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse.** Zingerman's Roadhouse chef Alex Young and local food historian Jan Longone host this celebratory dinner with a menu based around broiled steak and beer, a largely lost tradition that originated in NYC in the late 19th century. 7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. \$45. Beverages available a la carte. Space limited; reservations required. 663-FOOD.

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 426-7818.

★**"Are You Scared of Social Networking?": American Business Women's Association.** Talk by Five Sparrows president Lauren Hobson. Preceded by networking (6 p.m.) and dinner (6:30 p.m.). 7 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$19 (includes dinner). Preregistration required at abwa-maia.org or by emailing rayr@umich.edu by Mar. 10. 763-9631.

★**"Colon Cancer: What Are the Risks?": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M gastroenterologist Danielle Kim Turgeon and Huron Gastro gastroenterologist Russell Keinath. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★**"Conflict Resolution in Action": American Association of University Women.** Talk by Dispute Resolution Center executive director Belinda Dulin. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 973-6287.

★**"Who Is Wynton Marsalis?": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by WEMU-FM music director Linda Yohn, in conjunction with Marsalis's performance with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra on Mar. 17 (see listing). 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**"The Raven's Gift": Nicola's Books.** Scientist and kayaker Jon Turk discusses and/or reads from his new memoir about having his fractured pelvis healed by an elderly Siberian shaman. The experience led him to cross Siberia in search of answers to his spiritual questions. Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**Writers Reading at Sweetwaters.** Veteran local poet Keith Taylor, the U-M undergrad creative writing coordinator, reads from *If the World Becomes So Bright*, his new collection of intimate, plainspoken, sometimes feisty poems contemplating a variety of landscapes, from Michigan to Cape Hatteras and the Irish countryside, and the lives they sustain. Followed by open mike readings. 7-9 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 369-2798.

★**"Playfest 2010": U-M Theatre Department.** See 15 Monday. Today: Emilie Catherine Samuelson's *Pictures of You*, a drama about a family broken by the memory of a kidnapped child. 7 p.m.

★**New Voice in Russian Theater: An Introduction to Playwright Maxsym Kurochkin": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** See 14 Sunday. Today: Discussion of contemporary theater in Moscow with Kurochkin, *Moscow Times* theater critic and Kurochkin translator John Freedman, and Afisha (Moscow) popular culture magazine editor Yelena Kovalskaya. 7 p.m., U-M Keene Theater, East Quad off Willard between Church and East University.

★**"Global Climate Change and the Great Lakes": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Talk by Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory researcher Brent Lofgren. Refreshments. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. doug.cowherd@michigan.sierraclub.org

17 WEDNESDAY

★**"Chicana por mi Raza: Uncovering the Hidden History of Chicana Feminism": U-M Center for the Education of Women.** U-M Latina/o studies professor Maria Cotera and research assistants Adonia Arteaga and Carolyn Racine discuss the interviews they conducted with women about their experience as activists in both ethnic nationalist social movements and the women's movement in the 70s. Noon-1:30 p.m., CEW, 330 E. Liberty. Free. Preregistration required at cew.umich.edu. 764-6005.

fiction

Thomas Lynch

The heart's unspeakable cargo

We've been lucky in Ann Arbor to have had a front-row seat as Thomas Lynch has developed his writing career over the last thirty years. Lynch, of course, is the undertaker from Milford who has created a unique place for himself in the world of letters—in this country, in Britain, and in Ireland. Certainly the combination of his two occupations has contributed to the attention he has received: a recent PBS *Frontline* focused on Lynch and his family business, and an even more elaborate film version about his work was produced by the BBC and had an American debut at last year's Traverse City Film Festival. Lynch himself will joke that he is "the go-to guy for death."

But none of this would have happened if Lynch did not have a particular vision, and if he had not done the work to find a strong voice to communicate that vision. First in his poetry and then in his award-winning essays, Lynch positioned himself as an intimate observer of our fragile relationship with our own mortality. More than most writers, he has watched people deal with grief and find ways to continue on in the face of it. He has seen the tentative possibilities of joy that arise even from what might seem overwhelming loss. He wrote about it stylishly, with humor and compassion. But over the years, his relationship with his subject has deepened, and he has looked into other themes—family history is one, place another—and even politics has crept into his work. And now Lynch has begun to write fiction.

Apparition & Late Fiction is a collection of four longish stories and a novella. The first story begins in a situation we can recognize from Lynch's work—"The thermos bottle with his father's ashes in it rested on the front seat of the drift boat." A fishing guide in northern Michigan prepares to scatter his



father's ashes, although elemental concerns end up changing the easy solutions. The next story has an undertaker as protagonist and movingly recapitulates subjects readers will recognize from Lynch's essays. The one after that follows a retired casket salesman who walks the trails around Mullett Lake while remembering a spiritual journey. And Lynch has a fascinating story modeled on Thomas Mann's *Death in Venice*, where a vacationing U-M professor becomes obsessed about the beauty of a young employee of the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. That story has an unfashionably slow-moving interior voice, reflecting on the nature of beauty and how it can dominate our lives until, at the end, "the heart bears its unspeakable cargo to lay it down at the feet of beauty."

Most of the last half of the book is devoted to *Apparition*, a novella about a wildly successful self-help writer whose own divorce provided the occasion for his book *Good Riddance—Divorcing for Keeps*. Despite the fame and fortune the book provides, Adrian Littlefield seems to have nurtured his own kind of obsession for the woman who left him, a woman he never should have married. He moves through the world looking for images of her in the moments of her infidelities. She becomes a ghost, an apparition he can never quite see or understand.

Thomas Lynch reads from his new book at Nicola's on Thursday, March 25.

—Keith Taylor

★**Book Club:** Ann Arbor Senior Center. All seniors age 50 & over invited to join Liz Gleich to discuss a book TBA at a2gov.org/senior. 12:15–1:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★**"The Cosmic Distance Ladder": U-M Physics Department Ford Motor Company Distinguished Lecture in Physics.** Talk by former child prodigy Terry Tao, now a renowned UCLA math professor. 4:15 p.m., Blau Auditorium, 701 Tappan. Free. 764-4437.

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** See 10 Wednesday. Tonight: fiction reading by Steve Gillis, an award-winning local novelist whose new novel, *The Consequence of Skating*, and debut story collection, *The Principles of Landscape*, are due out in 2010 and 2011, respectively. Also a performance by his 15-year-old daughter, singer-songwriter and guitarist Anna Gillis. 7–9:30 p.m.

★**"Playfest 2010": U-M Theatre Department.** See 15 Monday. Today: Allison Marie Brown's *The Tyler Family Portrait*, a drama about a family that goes to great lengths to keep its imperfections private and maintain its flawless public façade. 7 p.m.

★**"New Voice in Russian Theater: An Introduction to Playwright Maxym Kurochkin": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** See 14 Sunday. Today: U-M Residential College drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff and RC guest dramaturg Leonora Ivanitsky direct U-M students and faculty and local actors in an interactive performance of Kurochkin's *Kitchen*, a drama that brings together contemporary kitchen workers with characters from the myth of the Nibelungs. Followed by a discussion with the playwright, *Moscow Times* theater critic and Kurochkin translator John Freedman, and *Afisha* (Moscow) popular culture magazine editor Yelena Kovalskaya. 7 p.m., 126 East Quad, off Willard between Church and East University.

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a talk and answers personal and universal questions. Also, socializing. 7:30–9:30 p.m., 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entry on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations are accepted. 477-5848.

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of *Down and Out in Paris and London*, George Orwell's travelogue about his time living on the breadline in Paris and working in restaurant kitchens. 7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★**"Exploring the Galapagos Islands": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by Monroe Community College biology teacher Bob Petit. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677-3275.

★**"The Meaning of Suffering": U-M Center for Faith and Scholarship.** Panel discussion on suffering, with sociologist Ray DeVries, artist Tim Lowly, and musician John Rapson. 8 p.m., location TBA at cfs-aa.org. Free. 668-7421.

Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra: University Musical Society. Lincoln Center artistic director Marsalis, a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer-trumpeter, leads the orchestra in everything from rarely performed historic compositions to newly commissioned works to new takes on jazz standards. Regarded as the finest large jazz ensemble performing today, these musicians play with "tight intensity and real swing," says a musicweb-international.com reviewer of a 2007 concert. "They relish dynamic changes and shifts in tone, bringing the music to life with technical mastery the original bands could seldom muster." 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$54 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

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“Gravity”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday, 8 p.m.

“Comedy Jamm”: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Every Wed except Mar. 3 & 10. Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$5 in advance and at the door. 996-9080.

Ellen Rowe & Andrew Bishop: UMMA Jazz Series. Jazz by the duo of pianist Rowe and saxophonist Bishop, both U-M professors. 9 p.m., UMMA Commons, 525 S. State. \$5. 763-UMMA.

★“Symphony Orchestra: EMU Music Department. Kevin Miller conducts this music-student ensemble in a performance of Vladimir Cosma’s Euphonium Concerto featuring 2009-2010 EMU concerto competition winner Sean Peterson. Also, Rimsky-Korsakov’s Capriccio Espagnol and Tchaikovsky’s Symphony no. 5. 8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255, 484-3237.

★“Creative Arts Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Mark Kirschenmann directs this adventurous music student ensemble in a program of entirely improvised music drawing on an array of influences from classical and jazz to pop, folk, and world music. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

Gabriel Bolkosky & Ling-Ju Lai: Ann Arbor Camerata (Kerrytown Concert House). This local duo of violinist Bolkosky and pianist Lai performs works by Bach, Beethoven, and Saint-Saens. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

“It Came from Mars”: Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Beyond Therapy”: P.T.D. Productions. See 11 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Gravity”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Lyne Koplitz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Mar. 18-20. Popular Tennessee-bred stand-up comic known for her faux-ditzy persona and her whimsically irreverent observations about relationships and everyday life. A frequent guest on TV shows, she also hosted the Food Network comedy show *How to Boil Water* and currently has a special in regular rotation on Comedy Central. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all Fri. & Sat. early shows are nonsmoking. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

19 FRIDAY

★“It’s All Write: Short Story Writing Contest”: Ann Arbor District Library. Today is the deadline for area middle and high school students to submit an original short story. Winners announced on May 22. \$250, \$150, and \$100 cash prizes for top 3 winners in 3 age divisions: grades 6-8, grades 9 & 10, and grades 11 & 12. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., AADL main library youth department or any of the 3 branches. Free. 327-8301.

★“German Innovation through Art, Science, and Technology”: U-M German Department “German Day.” Michigan high school students of German compete in a range of German language contests that include poetry and prose recitations, skits, music, a spelling bee, and more. Followed at 1 p.m. by an awards ceremony featuring the winning performances. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Michigan League and Rackham rooms TBA. Free. 763-4496.

“2010 Home, Garden, & Lifestyle Show”: Builders & Remodelers Association of Greater Ann Arbor. Mar. 19-21. Nearly 200 area exhibitors show and demonstrate products and offer information on services for the home. Concessions. 3-8 p.m. (Mar. 19), 10 a.m.-7 p.m. (Mar. 20), & 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (Mar. 21), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Admission \$5 (kids age 12 & under, free). 996-0100.

★“Future of Urbanism”: U-M College of Architecture and Urban Planning. Mar. 19 & 20. 2 days of talks by national experts on everything from urban and regional ecologies to megacities and shrinking cities. For full schedule, see taubmancollege.umich.edu. 4:30 p.m. (Mar. 19) & 9 a.m. (Mar. 20), Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-1300.

★“Debra Spark & Susan Messer: U-M Library. These 2 writers read from their new novels and discuss how they create a sense of place in their fiction. Maine writer Spark’s *Good for the Jews*, her new novel, set in Wisconsin during the Bush administration, is loosely based on the biblical story of Esther. Detroit writer Messer’s *Grand River and Joy* is about a Jewish salesman who finds an ethnic slur written on his warehouse—an event that draws him into the racial tensions that erupted into the 1967 Detroit riot. Q&A and signing. 5-6:30 p.m., Shapiro Undergraduate Library 2nd floor screening room, 919 South University. Free. 615-7876.

Parents’ Night Out: Ann Arbor YMCA. Kids ages 2-10 can enjoy dinner, games, and sports, and (age 5 & older only) a dip in the pool. 6:15-10 p.m., YMCA, 400 W. Washington. \$30 (members, \$25). Preregistration required. 661-8058.

“World Cup of Wine: France vs. Spain”: Arbor Farms. Wine tasting and appetizers. 7-9 p.m., Quarter Bistro, Westgate shopping center. Tickets \$20 in advance at Arbor Farms (2103 W. Stadium); \$25 at the door. 996-8111.

★“Bison B 1970s Sup Carey Lor naw Valley ital media p work of the who grew t Festival, wh 23-28 (see room, 343 S

★Burton Rosenberg 19-21. A s logical Sem professor. As Moral I tions of the Mar. 20: “I sion of the its different and Islam. Muslim Dia Experience Hollywood 7 p.m. (Mar. 9:30 a.m. (Washtenaw,

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“Boutette’s its tendency songwriter protagonist heartfelt.” F singer-song couple of hi 8 p.m., FU at Glazier V of 1) in adv San Fran Society. Mo

★“Bison Boys & Famous Monsters of Michigan: 1970s Super-8mm Films of Jimm Juback and Carey Loren”: Ann Arbor District Library. Saginaw Valley State University communication and digital media professor Mike Mosher discusses the early work of these 2 southeastern Michigan filmmakers who grew up attending the annual Ann Arbor Film Festival, which returns to the Michigan Theater Mar. 23–28 (see Films). 7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.

★Burton Visotzky: Beth Israel Congregation Rosenberg Scholar-in-Residence Weekend. Mar. 19–21. A series of lectures by this Jewish Theological Seminary midrash and interreligious studies professor. Mar. 19: “The Dysfunctional Family as Moral Exemplar” explores the moral implications of the Genesis stories of Abraham and Sarah. Mar. 20: “Isaac Unbound” (12:30 p.m.), a discussion of the biblical story about Abraham’s son and its different interpretations in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. “Cairo to Qatar and Beyond—Jewish-Muslim Dialogue in the Past 5 Years: One Rabbi’s Experiences” (7:30 p.m.). Mar. 21: “Moses Goes to Hollywood: Approaches to the Passover Story.” 7 p.m. (Mar. 19), 12:30 & 7:30 p.m. (Mar. 20), and 9:30 a.m. (Mar. 21), Beth Israel Congregation, 2000 Washtenaw. Free. 665–9897.

★“Identity Crisis”: Neutral Zone. Local teens present a program of art and performances exploring the difficulty of creating an identity in the midst of social influences, rules, and other pressures. 7 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Mar. 19 & 26 (different programs). Readings by U-M creative writing grad students. Today: prose by Marcos Pagan and poetry by George Ramos. 7 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710.

★“Making Peace with Your Office Life”: Waters Place Borders. Psychotherapist and professional organizer Cindy Glovinsky discusses her self-help book. 7 p.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997–8884.

“Melody on Ice 2010: Nighttime at the Museum”: Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. Mar. 19 & 20. This annual show features more than 200 talented area skaters from tots to seniors. Also, ice dancers and synchronized skating teams. 7 p.m. (Mar. 19 & 20) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 20), Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. Tickets \$9, \$15, & \$25 (kids age 12 & under and seniors age 65 & over, \$7) in advance and at the door. 213–6767.

“Hotel Paradiso”: EMU Theatre Department. Mar. 19–21, & 25–27. EMU drama professor John Seibert directs EMU drama students in George Feydeau’s 1894 bedroom farce about 2 upper-class Parisian households. When a man and his neighbor check into a hotel to pursue an affair, they discover that their spouses, a nephew, a maid, and some traveling friends are all staying there as well. 7 p.m., Quirk Theatre, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$15 (students, \$12; kids age 12 & under, \$6) in advance and at the door. 487–2282.

★“Playfest 2010”: U-M Theatre Department. See 15 Monday. Today: Alison Mae Rieth’s *Caged*, a poetic drama about the epidemic of divisions in American society. 7 p.m.

★Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. 7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.

Cage Match: Canterbury House. Performance by this local saxophone quartet. 8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. \$10 (students & seniors, \$5). 761–3162.

Dave Boutette: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. “There’s an honesty in his voice that’s genuinely comforting; he finishes each line with an exclamation point that’s confident without coming off as smug, putting him somewhere in between Alex Chilton and Elvis Costello,” says the *All-Music Guide*. “Boutette’s a songwriter that relieves the Midwest of its tendency to spew forth an endless sea of singer-songwriter banality, replacing its tired clichés with protagonists that are as mischievous as they are heartfelt.” Boutette is accompanied on guitar by local singer-songwriter John Latini, who also performs a couple of his own songs. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.

San Francisco Symphony: University Musical Society. Mar. 19 & 20 (different programs). Michael

Tilson Thomas conducts what is widely regarded as the nation’s most polished and finely tuned orchestra. “The SFS runs like a well-oiled machine,” says one reviewer, “but its playing...is never routine, always dedicated.” Tonight the symphony is joined by acclaimed German violinist Christian Tetzlaff in Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto in D Major. The program also includes Ravel’s *Valses Nobles et Sentimentales*, Liszt’s Symphonic Poem no. 2, and a new Victor Kissine work commissioned by the symphony. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. \$10–\$75 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.

“Man of La Mancha”: U-M MUSKET. Mar. 19–21.

Rebecca Spooner directs U-M students in Dale Wasserman, Mitch Leigh, and Joe Darion’s popular musical adaptation of Cervantes’s *Don Quixote*.

The action—which focuses on the visionary foolishness of Quixote’s pursuit of Dulcinea—is presented as a play-within-a-play. An imprisoned Cervantes has them act out a story he has made up, as a defense against trumped-up charges brought against him by his fellow prisoners. 8 p.m., Power Center. \$13 (students, \$7) in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office, and at the door. 764–2538.

“Dreamland Tonight!”: Dreamland Theater. Ypsilanti blogger Mark Maynard hosts a live talk show with interviews of local celebrities and national celebrities (represented with puppets). Also, live music by local bands, comic sketches, and more. 8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$7. 657–2337.

“It Came from Mars”: Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Gravity”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

“Beyond Therapy”: P.T.D. Productions. See 11 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Lynne Koplitz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 18 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

20 SATURDAY

Spring Craft Show: Saline Community Education. Juried show and sale of works by 135 crafters from around the Midwest. Also, kids activities and a visit from Peter Cottontail (10 a.m.–2 p.m.), concessions, bake sale, raffle, and silent auction. No strollers. 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. \$2 (kids age 5 & under, free). 429–8023.

Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Talk by Aniko Feher, a Royal Oak-based Hungarian quilter whose quilts often include highly detailed portraits. 9:30 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$15 (members, free). (248) 349–7322.

10th Annual 5K Fun Run: American Society of Mechanical Engineers/Society of Women Engineers. All invited to run through Gallup Park. 10 a.m., Gallup Park Maas Shelter (east side of Huron Pkwy.). \$12 in advance at umich.edu/~funrun/index.htm; \$18 race day.

Downtown Home & Garden Spring Lecture Series. Mar. 20 & 27. Mar. 20: “Knife Skills.” Downtown Home & Garden owner Mark Hodesh and Little House Farm (Whitmore Lake) botanical sanctuary steward Matt Demmon discuss how to pick a good knife, how to sharpen it, and how to chop, dice, and mince fast and accurately. Mar. 27: Mark the Lawn Doctor explains and answers questions about growing and caring for an organic lawn. Also, Demmon demonstrates techniques for “Growing Edible and Medicinal Mushrooms in Your Back Yard.” 10 a.m.–1 p.m., DH&G, 210 S. Ashley. Free. 662–8122.

★17th Annual Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl Finals: U-M Center for Japanese Studies. Students from Michigan elementary, middle, and high schools compete in this entertaining competition on Japanese language and culture. Noon–3 p.m., Modern Languages, 812 E. Washington. Free. 764–6307.

★“Signs of Spring Hike”: Legacy Land Conservancy. All invited to hike through a beech-maple forest. 1–3 p.m., Creekhead Nature Preserve, west side of Curtis Rd. between Brookville and Five Mile rds. (east off Pontiac Tr.), Salem Twp. Free. 302–5263.

“Japan’s Four Seasons”: U-M Japan Student Association Cultural Festival. A traditional tea ceremony, traditional dance (tentative), and calligraphy, origami, and karate demos. Also, Japanese food, including *okonomiyaki* (Japanese pancake), snow cones, *somen* noodles, *ozouni* (fish and vegetable soup), *chirashizushi* (bowls of sushi rice with other foods mixed in), and more. 1–5 p.m., East Hall Math Atrium, 530 Church St. Admission \$1. jsao@umich.edu

“Dance-a-palooza”: People Dancing (Performance Network Children’s Theater Network). This local professional dance company performs original works influenced by the dances of various cultures around the world. This family-oriented program for kids of all ages includes dance games with

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★**Craig McDonald and Mark Terry:** Aunt Agatha's. These 2 mystery writers discuss their new books. Edgar-nominated Ohio writer McDonald's *Print the Legend*, set at a 1965 Hemingway conference in Idaho, pits a U-M Hemingway scholar trying to investigate whether Hemingway may have been murdered against rogue FBI agents looking for Hemingway papers that might prove compromising for J. Edgar Hoover. Michigan writer Terry's *The Fallen* is a thriller about a G8 summit in Colorado Springs that's infiltrated by terrorists. Signing, 1:30 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-1114.

★**"An Economy of Means": UMMA.** Docent-led tours of this current contemporary art exhibit. 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★**"Spring Equinox Ritual": Druids of Shining Lakes Grove.** All invited to celebrate this ancient Celtic Druidic festival honoring nature spirits, with a local emphasis on Ana, goddess of the Huron River. Bring gardening tools and seeds you would like blessed. Raffle and potluck (bring a dish). Preceded by a fire watch beginning Mar. 19 (7 p.m., 263 Larkspur). 2-5 p.m., Friends Meeting House, 1420 Hill. Free. 262-1052.

Chili Cook-Off: Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Fund-Raiser. Chili and beer tastings and a silent auction. 4-8 p.m., The Corner Brewery, 720 Norris, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$20 in advance and at the door. 971-2228.

★**"Fire and Flight": Circus Opus.** Performance by this local troupe led by veteran mime Michael Lee. The show combines high-flying aerial artists, gymnasts, fire breathers, drummers, magicians, musicians, acrobatic clowns, mime, and general silliness. 4 & 7 p.m., Rudolf Steiner High School auditorium, 2230 Pontiac Trail. \$12 (students & seniors, \$8; family, \$30). Reservations recommended. (734) 730-2164.

★**"Zenefit Auction": Zen Buddhist Temple.** Live and silent auctions of a wide range of donated goods and services. Also, live music TBA. Refreshments. Proceeds benefit the temple's children's programming, Food Gatherers, and Haitian relief efforts. 5:30-8:30 p.m., Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard at Wells. Donation, 761-6520.

★**"Dream Seeding for Compassionate Communities."** Opening reception for this art exhibit (see Galleries) with food, storytelling, and live music by Laz Slomovits of the popular local acoustic duo Gemini. 6-9 p.m., Michigan Union Art Lounge. Free. dreamseeding.org

4th Annual Benefit Dinner: Ann Arbor Take Back the Night Fund-Raiser. Dinner and dancing to live 80s music by One Way. Also, poetry reading by Southfield poet Ber-Henda Williams. Silent auction. 6-11 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Tickets \$25 in advance at tbnannarbor.org.

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Ohio State. 7 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. \$3 (youths age 12 & under, \$1; U-M students, free). 763-2159.

★**"Melody on Ice 2010: Nighttime at the Museum": Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club.** See 19 Friday, 2 & 7 p.m.

★**Dan Chaon, Laura van den Berg, & Christian TeBordo: Great Lakes, Great Times Reading Series.** Fiction readings by these 3 writers. Cleveland novelist Chaon reads from *Await Your Reply*, his novel that weaves together the stories of 3 people: a man who searches for his troubled twin brother, a recent high school graduate who begins to feel uneasy about running away with her former history teacher, and a recent college grad who decides to remake himself after he's presumed dead. Florida fiction writer van den Berg reads from *What the World Will Look Like When All the Water Leaves Us*, her debut short story collection that explores characters who are trying to recover from emotionally difficult life changes. Philadelphia novelist TeBordo reads from *The Awful Possibilities*, his new collection of strange and disturbing short stories. 7 p.m., 826michigan (enter at Liberty Street Robot Supply & Repair), 115 E. Liberty. Free. (810) 210-0104.

★**"60th Annual Bands in Review": Ann Arbor Public Schools.** Mar. 20 & 21. More than 800 public school students perform in these lively concerts. Also, jazz in the lobby by the Community High Jazz Combo (6-7 p.m.). Tonight: the Tappan, Forsythe, and Slauson middle school bands and the Huron High Symphony Band. 7 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main. Tickets \$3 (family of 4, \$8) in advance from band members and at the door. 996-3210.

Randy Weston's African Rhythms Trio: U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies (Kerrytown Concert House). See review, p. 51. Now in his 80s, legendary bop composer-pianist Weston still plays with a "decisive and commanding" presence.

GOOD NEWS FOR BAD BACKS

Home remedies for back & neck pain?

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Have random attacks of back or neck pain? Are you popping pills to cope with spasms or radiating pain? It's only natural to stop moving with an attack of back pain. But in fact, movement is like lubricant for your spine. One of the best steps to recovery from simple back pain can be a 20-minute walk. Unlike drugs which mask symptoms, Ann Arbor Spine Center uses spine specialized McKenzie-trained therapists to customize special exercises that relieve pain symptoms. Other

special spine exercises, like the one shown, can make your back more flexible, stronger and resistant to injury and future strain. But how would you know this? You could visit our online spine encyclopedia at AnnArborSpineCenter.com. Or you could call us for our 36-page Home Remedy Book. As a community service we provide it to those in the Ann Arbor area for free.



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ing" presence, according to a recent *New York Times* review. Although the trio plays jazz standards that alternate between "rugged and vital" tunes and "slow, insinuating groove[s]," their style is rooted in African traditions. "If you take out the African elements of bossa nova, samba, jazz, blues, you have nothing," Weston says. Other members are bassist Alex Blake and percussionist Neil Clarke, both veteran jazz musicians. 7 & 9 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$30 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★"Playfest 2010": U-M Theatre Department. See 15 Monday. Today: Tedra Millan's *Elbow Room*, a dark comedy, set in a Philadelphia restaurant, about 9 people whose lives become entangled during the course of an evening. 7 p.m.

"Hotel Paradiso": EMU Theater Department. See 19 Friday. 7 p.m.

★"Angika: Sculpture and the Dancing Body": UMMA. Nationally acclaimed local classical Indian dancer Sreyashi Dey leads her *Srishti Dances of India* ensemble in the Odissi style of classical Indian dance, which emphasizes subtle, fluidly sculpted movements through S-shaped body positions. With narration written by local poet Zilka Joseph and performed by U-M Residential College drama instructor Martin Walsh. 7:30 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm Dancers. Robin Warner and Peter Baker call to music by Dawn's Early Light. No partner needed; all dances taught. Preceded by a lesson at 7:30 p.m. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$10. 426-0241.

International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) Midwest Semifinals: Varsity Vocals. The top 8 college a cappella groups from across the region—including 2 U-M groups, the coed *Amazin' Blue* and the all-male *GMen* (who also host the event)—give lively, energetic performances as they battle for the title of Midwest champion and the opportunity to advance to the international finals at Lincoln Center. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. \$25 (students, \$20) in advance at varsityvocals.com and at the door. 668-8397.

★"54th Annual Best Concert Ever": U-M Friars. This self-styled "crack squad of supercrooners," an a cappella octet drawn from the Men's Glee Club, sings oldies and college-themed parodies. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. \$6 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and at the door. 763-TKTS.

"Femme Porn Tour": Body Heat (Shlaut Cabaret and Gallery). This collective of queer femme performance artists is joined by local performance artist Cookie Tuff in erotic spoken word performances, dance, and more. 8 p.m., Shlaut, 325 Braun Ct. \$15. 663-0036.

San Francisco Symphony: University Musical Society. See 19 Friday. Tonight: Michael Tilson Thomas, long regarded as an important interpreter of Mahler, conducts the symphony, as well as the 150-voice UMS Choral Union, soprano Laura Claycomb, and mezzo-soprano Katarina Karneus in Mahler's Symphony no. 2 in C Minor ("Resurrection"). As the 15th Annual Ford Honors Program, tonight's performance is preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a gala dinner (\$300, includes champagne afterglow). 8 p.m.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"It Came from Mars": Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Man of La Mancha": U-M MUSKET. See 19 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Beyond Therapy": P.T.D. Productions. See 11 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Lynne Kopitz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 18 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 6 Saturday. 9 p.m.

"Satan on Saturday Night": Vault of Midnight. All age 18 and over invited to this art show featuring works by John Apricot and Jebediah Long. Also, live music by local guitarist Paul Bancell. 10 p.m., Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main (enter through the back alley off Liberty between Main & Fourth). \$5 (includes drinks). 998-1413.

★"The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)": U-M Basement Arts. U-M students perform the Reduced Shakespeare Company's acclaimed 97-minute transformation of Shakespeare's 37 plays into a fast-paced, hilarious, and outrageously irreverent blend of Marx Brothers-style absurdity and Three Stooges slapstick. The program opens with an acrobatic travesty of *Romeo and Juliet* and features *Titus Andronicus* performed as a cooking show, a rap version of *Othello*, a condensation of the 14 comedies into an orgy of mixed identities and cross dressing that goes under the title *The Love Boat Goes to Verona*, and a collective treatment of the history plays as a football game. 11 p.m., U-M Walgreen

Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basementstudentorgs.umich.edu

21 SUNDAY

"Full English Tea Service": TeaHaus. A traditional English tea with scones, finger sandwiches, sweets, and tea. Also, a TeaHaus staffer gives a brief history of English tea traditions. 10 a.m. and 1 & 4 p.m., Cake Nouveau, 206 N. Fourth Ave. \$26 (\$50 per two-some). Reservations required. 622-0460.

★"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. Robinsongs for Kids director Robin Robinson presents a program of music and movement for babies through 5-year-olds. 1-1:40 p.m., AADL Mallets Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★"Secret Hike": Huron Valley Sierra Club. Local outdoorsman Barry Lonik leads a 4-mile hike around Peace Lake in Pinckney Recreation Area. 1 p.m., meet at Zingerman's Roadhouse to carpool, 2501 Jackson. Free. 477-5715.

★"Amigurumi Crochet Happy Fun!": Ann Arbor District Library. Hands-on introduction to the Japanese art of crocheting small stuffed toys. 1-4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4200.

"Your Soul's Plan: Discovering the Real Meaning of the Life You Planned Before You Were Born": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. Spiritual teacher Rob Schwartz discusses his new book, and he is joined by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Deep Spring Center spiritual director Barbara Brodsky, to discuss the extent to which we preplan what may seem to be random life experiences. Also, Aaron answers personal and universal questions. 1:30-5 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. \$25 in advance by March 14 via mail to Interfaith, 2 Eastbury Ct., 48105; \$30 at the door. 327-0270.

"8th Annual Spring Sunday Sampler": Southeast Michigan Astrologers' Round Table. Local astrologer Bon Rose Fine hosts this minifestival to celebrate the vernal equinox and International Astrology Day that features talks by Michigan astrologers on "Generational Cycles, 2010-2012: Reshaping Our World," "Astrology and Awakening," "Integrating Psychology with Astrology," and "The Fixed Stars." 1:30-6 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main St. \$15. 434-4555.

"Are You My Mother?": ArtsPower National Touring Theater (Michigan Theater Foundation Not Just for Kids Series). This highly regarded touring troupe from Ridgewood, New Jersey, presents its musical adaptation of P.D. Eastman's whimsical children's book about an abandoned bird who sets out on a search for its mother. For families with kids in grades K-2. 1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$14 (MTF members, \$12) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission Hikes, Mar. 21 & 27. Led by WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner. Mar. 21: "Celebrating Spring with a Nature Walk!" (2-4 p.m., Miller Preserve, Parker Rd. at Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Dexter). A hike to look for skunk cabbage, spring peepers, titmice, and chickadees. Wear boots that can get wet. Mar. 27: "Birdwatching for Beginners" (9-11 a.m., Independence Lake County Park Beach Center, 3200 Jennings, north off North Territorial). A talk followed by a hike for those age 12 & over. Bring binoculars if you have them. \$5 vehicle entry fee. Mar. 27: "Almost the Worm Moon—An Early Spring Night Hike" (7-9 p.m., Park Lyndon North, North Territorial Rd. 1 mile east of M-52). Followed by hot tea and cocoa in front of the fireplace. Various times and locations. Free. 971-6337, ext. 334.

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All children and their parents or grandparents invited for contra and square dancing with live music. Followed by cocoa and Grange-baked cookies. 2-4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$12 per family. 769-1052.

★"The Restoration of 1526 Pontiac Trail": Washtenaw County Historical Society. Local preservationist Pat McCauley discussed the recent restoration of his 1840s house. 2 p.m., Ypsilanti District Library, 5577 Whittaker Rd. (off Huron St., south of Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Free. 662-9092.

★"Afternoon of Jazz": Ann Arbor District Library. Performance by the Bob Sweet Trio, a veteran local ensemble led by drummer Sweet and featuring pianist Tad Weed and bassist Kurt Krahne. 2-3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★5th Annual Ensemble Concert: Ypsilanti Community Band. Jerry Robbins directs small ensembles drawn from this 70-member volunteer band in everything from classical to jazz. Also, the YCB Town Band ensemble plays music from the 1880s to the 1920s on old-fashioned instruments. 2 p.m., WCC

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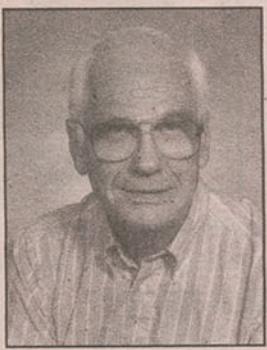
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Morris Lawrence Bldg. lobby, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 904-5453.

"Chords and Cuisine Cabaret Show": Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA. Rob Pettigrew directs the 30-voice Harmonizers men's barbershop chorus, in a program of old and new 4-part a cappella songs, including some sing-alongs. Also, guest performances by a Sweet Adelines quartet and the award-winning Harmonizers quartet Chordiology. Pasta dinner. 2 & 6 p.m., Stoney Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stoney Creek Rd. Tickets \$20 in advance at hvharmonizers.org and at the door. 445-1925.

"Man of La Mancha": U-M MUSKET. See 19 Friday, 2 p.m.

"It Came from Mars": Performance Network Professional Season. See 4 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday, 2 p.m.

"Dreaming a Place: Environmental Dance and Movement Meditation": Nightfire Dance Theater. Nightfire director Irena Nagler leads a session of environmental dancing in an outdoor setting, accompanied by music and other sound, visual art, and poetry. No experience necessary; children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring drinking water and whatever protection you need from the elements. 2:30 p.m., Island Park, 1450 Island Dr. off Maiden Lane between Broadway & Fuller. \$5-\$25 sliding scale. 996-1772.

"Hotel Paradiso": EMU Theater Department. See 19 Friday, 3 p.m.

"60th Annual Bands in Review": Ann Arbor Public Schools. See 20 Saturday. Today: the Ann Arbor Open @ Mack advanced band, the Scarlett and Clague middle school bands, the Pioneer Symphony Band, and the Huron Varsity, concert, and symphony bands. 3 p.m.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 7 Sunday, 3:30 p.m.

★"Zingerman's Guide to Better Bacon": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor. Zingerman's co-founder Ari Weinzweig discusses his new book. 4-6 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. Free. 769-5911.

★Randy Wayne White: Nicola's Books. This best-selling writer reads from and/or discusses *Deep Shadow*, the 17th mystery in his Doc Ford series about a marine biologist who this time is forced by thugs to dive in a deep Florida lake in search of treasure. 4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

"Celebrate the Wilhelm!": First Congregational Church. An organ concert with several organists TBA, in honor of the 25th anniversary of both the church's Wilhelm organ and Marilyn Mason's tenure as church organist. Reception follows. 4 p.m., First Congregational Church, State & William. Admission TBA. 846-3825.

★"Child's Play XVIII: Carnival of the Animals": EMU Music Department. EMU music faculty pianists Anne Beth Gajda and Garik Pedersen present their popular annual concert for families with young children. Program TBA. 4 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★Kate Prestia: EMU Music Department. Recital by this highly regarded concert flutist. Program TBA. 4 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★"Bright Sheng & Friends: East/West": U-M School of Music/UMMA. MacArthur "genius" grant-winning U-M composition professor Bright Sheng is joined by U-M music professors and others in a program of his compositions, including *A Night at the Chinese Opera*, *Three Chinese Love Songs*, *Seven Tunes Heard in China*, *The Stream Flows*, and a string quartet. The program also includes works by Ravel and Bartok that explore orientalism. Other musicians include violinist Stephen Shipps, pianist Logan Skelton, the Phoenix Ensemble, cellist Paul Dwyer, and soprano Jennifer Goltz. In conjunction with the current exhibit, *Tradition Transformed: Chang Ku-nien, Master Painter of the 20th Century*. 4 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0594.

★"From Bach to the Beatles: The Boychoir Sings!": Boychoir of Ann Arbor. Boychoir founder Tom Strode directs this local ensemble of boys ages 9-17 in a program highlighted by some of Bach's most joyous and charming works, including the chorus "Jesu, joy of man's desiring" from Cantata 147 and the duet from Cantata 78 "Wir eilen mit schwachen," and a medley of some of the Beatles' most popular tunes. Also, Mendelssohn's "Verliebt uns Frieden," Z. Randall Stroope's "Omnia Sol," Morley's popular madrigal "April is my mistress' face," Rollo Dilworth's gospel arrangement of "America the Beautiful," William L. Dawson's arrangement of the spiritual "Ain't that good news," and a delightful chorus from Bach's cousin J. L. Bach, "Ich jauchze."

4 p.m., St. James Episcopal Church, 3279 Broad St., Dexter. Free, but donations accepted. 663-5377.

St. Patrick's Feast: Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County. Traditional Irish dinner and music. Proceeds benefit the Father Patrick Jackson House, a residential program for teen mothers and their babies. 5 p.m., St. Joseph Catholic Church, 3430 Dover St., Dexter. \$75 in advance by Mar. 15. 971-9781, ext. 323.

"The Divine Language of Music": Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County Benefit Concert. Instrumental music by local organist Daniel Forger, local composer Stephen Eddins and an ensemble of percussionists, and jazz pianist Matt Endahl with the jazz ensemble Quartex. 7 p.m., 1st Congregational Church, 608 E. William. \$10 suggested donation. 424-1535.

★"Music for Contemplation": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. See 7 Sunday. Tonight: Ben Cohen directs the local Vocal Arts Ensemble in chamber choral works by William Byrd and others. 7:30 p.m.

★"Many Issues, Many People, One Movement: Movement Building for Progressive Change": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice Annual Meeting. Talk by St. Peter's Episcopal Church (Detroit) minister Bill Wylie-Kellermann. Also, updates on the club's activities for the past year. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a dessert reception and a business meeting. 7:45 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 663-1870.

★Dan Gilbert: U-M School of Music. This U-M clarinet professor performs Bernstein's Sonata for Clarinet and Piano, Muczynski's *Time Pieces*, Victor Babin's *Hilldale Waltzes*, and U-M piano professor Paul Schoenfeld's Sonatina for Clarinet and Piano. Accompanist is Donna Lee. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

22 MONDAY

★"Health Care Reform at the State vs. National Level: Tradeoffs and Tipping Points": U-M Ford School of Public Policy. Panel discussion with U-M business economics and public policy professor Thomas Buchmueller, U-M School of Public Policy visiting lecturer (and former Republican congressman from Battle Creek) Joe Schwarz, and U-M Center for Healthcare Research & Transformation director Marianne Udow-Phillips. 4-5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615-3893.

★John Holdren: U-M School of Natural Resources 9th Annual Peter Wege Lecture on Sustainability. Lecture by this director of the White House science and technology policy office. 5-7 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-1412.

★John Sinclair & Gerry Fialka: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. These 2 veteran artists discuss the metaphysics of their callings and the nitty-gritty of their crafts. Currently a New Orleans resident, Sinclair is an Ann Arbor counterculture legend who is also known for his blues- and jazz-steeped poetry which he performs with a jazz ensemble. Fialka is an L.A.-based writer, lecturer, and media ecologist who presents his acclaimed "Dream Awake" at the public library on Mar. 26 (see listing). 6-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★"Sports Injury Prevention": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by orthopedic physician Robert Williams. For adults & kids in grade 6 & up. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4200.

"Native Gardening": Stewardship Network. Talk by Land and Resource Services representative Lynn Kalfsbeek. 7-9 p.m., NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. \$15 (members, \$10). Preregistration required at stewardshipnetwork.org. 996-3190.

★"Who Is Anton Chekhov?": Ann Arbor District Library. Talks by U-M Slavic languages & literatures professor Michael Makin and U-M Residential College drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff. Also, U-M acting students perform scenes from Chekhov's tragicomic masterpiece *Uncle Vanya* (see 25 Thursday University Musical Society listing) followed by discussion of the play and the challenges it poses for actors and directors. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★"Detroit Symphony Orchestra Horn Quartet: U-M School of Music. Performance by this ensemble of DSO hornists Karl Pituch, David Everson, Bryan Kennedy, and Corbin Wagner. Program TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

23 TUESDAY

★"After the Fall: Politics and Economy in Iron Age Central Turkey": U-M Center for Near Eastern Studies. Lecture by Santa Clara University anthropology professor Lisa Kealhofer. 1 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 764-0314.

★"Depression after 60: Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment": Ann Arbor District Library.

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ADRIAN WYLIE

Harpsichordist Ed Parmentier

Tackling the Italians

Ed Parmentier has been here so long we sometimes take him for granted. But given his talent and stature, that is something we ought never to do. Since he joined the U-M School of Music faculty in 1976, the long, lean harpsichordist has not only run its harpsichord studio and taught its Baroque music orchestra, he's performed several solo and chamber concerts a year plus played harpsichord for the Choral Union's annual *Messiah*. In every case Parmentier brings his blend of bravura technique and charismatic interpretations to the music, and the results are always wholly compelling.

Yet if familiarity has not bred contempt, it has come close to breeding indifference. To help local audiences remember what a great player Parmentier is, I recommend checking out his performances on Saturday, March 27. Parmentier will be playing twice that day. His first recital will be part of what he calls Michigan Harpsichord Saturday. "It's my outreach so kids can be all over the harpsichord," he explains. "My students and I are in six classrooms in the School [of Music], and people can stop in and hear a harpsichord being played, or get free lessons, or just mess around. And in one classroom, I'll be playing for three hours" — from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

His second recital will take place that evening in the music school's Britton Recit-

al Hall, a joint concert with faculty violinist Aaron Berofsky. The harpsichordist vividly recalls the first time he heard the violinist. "I was playing on a program with the Ann Arbor Symphony, and before we started I saw this young-looking fellow sitting where the concertmaster usually sits. He was tuning, which is usually not very pretty to listen to, but he was making these gorgeous sounds: pure, crystalline, and in tune. I thought the world of his playing, and a few years later we had another joint project, and he asked me to play with him."

Since then, Parmentier reckons he and Berofsky have played three duo concerts together, the most recent being a Brunch with Bach recital at the Detroit Institute of Arts. For their March concert, Parmentier says, they'll be playing "three of Corelli's sonatas, plus sonatas by two other composers whose last names end with an 'i': Locatelli and Veracini. Those mid-18th-century Italian guys are all about bringing it to the edge as far as is possible in terms of technique." He's not kidding. Late Baroque Italian composers wrote some of the most technically advanced and excruciatingly difficult violin music before Paganini—and they didn't hold back when it came to the harpsichord part, either.

The notes themselves will be no challenge for Parmentier, but the spirit of the music may be. For a player best known for his imposing Bach and impressive Byrd, switching to the more extravagantly expressive Italians could be a challenge. The only way to know if he rises to it is to show up.

—James Leonard

Talk by U-M psychiatry clinical lecturer Sara Wright, followed by a panel discussion and Q&A with U-M Depression Center experts. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★"Bach's Partitas": UMMA. Lecture-demo by violinist Paula Muldoon, a U-M grad, as a precursor to Julia Fischer's performance (see 24 Wednesday listing). 7 p.m., UMMA Commons, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★University Symphony Orchestra & University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Christopher James Lees and Yaniv Dinur conduct these music student ensembles in Strauss's "Ein Heldenleben" and Beethoven's *Leonore* Overture no. 3. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday, 8 p.m.

24 WEDNESDAY

★Brown Bag Organ Series: U-M School of Music. See 10 Wednesday. Today: Stephen Rush. 12:15 p.m.

U-M Softball vs. Bowling Green. The March schedule also includes a 2-game series against Illinois (Mar. 27 & 28, 2 p.m.). 4 p.m., Alumni Field (behind

Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. \$4 (youths age 12 & under, \$2; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★"An Introduction to Habitat for Humanity of Washtenaw County": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market In Our Community Series. Talk by Habitat for Humanity development associate Megan Rodgers. 6 p.m., Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. Free. Preregistration required. 997-7500.

★History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to join a discussion of *The Jewel House: Elizabethan London and the Scientific Revolution*, Deborah Harkness's book about Elizabethan science. 7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★"Evolutionary Science in Medicine: From Diseases to Doctor Training": U-M Exhibit Museum Science Cafe. Talk by U-M psychology and psychiatry professor Randolph Nesse. Followed by discussion. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by free hors d'oeuvres. 6–7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764-0478.

"Food Friendly Reds and Whites": Eve. Eve restaurant sommelier Travis Reeves leads wine tastings. Food. 7 p.m., Eve, Kerrystown. \$35 (plus tax and gratuity). Reservations required. 222-0711.

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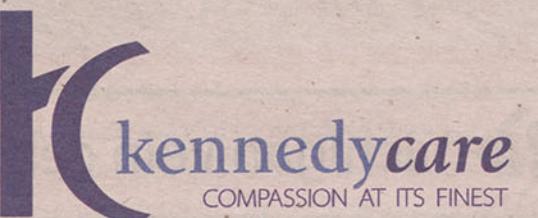
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★**Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor Area Robotics Club.** All invited to meet robotics hobbyists and check out and discuss their current gadgets and toys. 7 p.m., A2 Mech Shop, 240 Parkland Plaza, 179 Little Lake Dr. (off eastbound Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 332-1000.

★**"When Is Behavior Compulsive? Diagnosis and Treatment of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talks by U-M Anxiety Disorders Clinic director Jim Abelson and U-M psychiatry professor Gregory Lynn Hanna. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**Chang-rae Lee: Downtown Borders.** This best-selling Korean American novelist reads from *The Surrendered*, his new novel about a GI who saves a young orphaned girl in the Korean War. They meet again 30 years later and must confront the mysterious secrets of their past. "Lee's ability to describe his characters' suffering, both physical and mental, is extraordinarily vivid," says a *Library Journal* review. "One is left in awe of the human soul's ability to survive the most horrific experiences." Signing. 7 p.m., *Borders*, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

★**"Pests and Diseases": Ann Arbor Bonsai Society.** Club member Jack Wikle discusses common problems of outdoor bonsai. Preceded at 7 p.m. by socializing. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 747-6439.

★**"Presidential Libraries and Museums in the 21st Century: Reflections on the Dilemmas of History, Legacy, and Politics": U-M Ford Presidential Library.** Talk by National Archives presidential libraries archivist Sharon Fawcett. 7:30 p.m., *Ford Library*, 1000 Beal. Free. 205-0555.

Julia Fischer: University Musical Society. Mar. 24 & 25. This internationally acclaimed young German violinist was named Gramophone's youngest ever "Artist of the Year" in 2007. She "plays with a remarkably sweet tone (evoking melting caramel perhaps) and long, refined phrases that have an operatic quality to them," says *New York Times* critic Vivien Schweitzer. Program: Bach Sonatas and Partitas nos. 1-3. 8 p.m., *Rackham Auditorium*. \$20-\$42 in advance at the Michigan League & ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

★**"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company.** See 3 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** See 17 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

appeal from the heart-and-mind concerns she has for language, history, racial identity, and gender," said the late Andrew Salkey in *World Literature Today*. Also, a prose reading by V.V. Ganeshanathan, a fiction writer, journalist, and U-M visiting professor whose novel *Love Marriage* was named one of the *Washington Post Book World* Best Books of 2008. It's about several generations of a Sri Lankan family and the conflicts they face as members of the Tamil minority. 5:10 p.m.

★**"Learn to Live Pain-Free: Posture Secrets from the Masai, the Ancient Greeks, and Babies": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Pain expert and posture specialist Esther Gokhale discusses her new book. 7 p.m., *Crazy Wisdom*, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★**"Building a Strong Immune System and the Myth of Fasting": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt. 7 p.m., *Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room*, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994-4589.

★**"Peace and Justice in Israel/Palestine: What Are Effective Strategies?": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice.** Panel discussion with speakers TBA. 7 p.m., location TBA at icpj.net. Free. 663-1870.

★**Thomas Lynch: Nicola's Books.** See review, p. 55. This internationally acclaimed Milford poet and essayist, the best-selling author of *The Undertaking*, reads from and discusses *Apparition & Late Fictions*, his new short story collection with protagonists ranging from a Methodist minister gone astray to a grieving trout fisherman. A *Library Journal* review calls it a "powerful, meditative collection." 7 p.m., *Nicola's*, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

2010 Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam: Neutral Zone. Readings by youth poets battling ferociously for one of the 6 coveted spots on the Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam Team, which competes in the National Youth Poetry Slam in Los Angeles. 7 p.m., *The B-Side*, 310 E. Washington. \$7 (students, \$5). 214-9995.

★**"The Enchanted Attic": Young Actors Guild.** Mar. 25-27. Donald Amerson directs young local actors in Linde Hayen Herman's play about 3 children, stranded in their great aunt's Victorian mansion, who discover the magical powers of an attic window. Appropriate for kids age 4 & over. 7 p.m., *Mitchell Elementary School*, 3550 Pittsview. Tickets \$10 (kids age 12 & under, \$5). 913-9800.

★**"Hotel Paradiso": EMU Theater Department.** See 19 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**"Village Jump": Sole Full of Rhythm.** Mar. 25-27. Sara Randazzo directs professional and student members of this local tap dance ensemble in a program of tap dancing, with live musical accompaniment by local singer-songwriter Dick Siegel. Also, a performance by local mime Michael Lee and his troupe OPUS Mime. 7:30 p.m., *Riverside Arts Center*, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$15 in advance at Randazzo Dance Studio (4569 Washtenaw), Dancers Boutique (2414 E. Stadium), or by emailing solefullofrhythm@mac.com; \$20 at the door. 477-9530.

★**"The Candy Dancer": Thurston Community Players.** Mar. 25-27. Thurston Elementary School students, parents, and friends present the school's 36th annual original play. Set in 1920s Ann Arbor during "candy prohibition," the musical revolves around a pro-candy presidential candidate, his missing daughters Good and Plenty, a candy speakeasy, and candy mobsters Mr. Goodbar, Jawbreaker, Snickers, and the Sour Patch Kids. 7:30 p.m., *Clague Middle School auditorium*, 2616 Nixon. Tickets \$8 (kids, \$6) at the door only. 994-1970.

★**"Armide": U-M Opera Theatre Department.** Mar. 25-28. Robert Joshua Major directs U-M opera students Gluck's 18th-century opera, adapted from Tasso's *Jerusalem Delivered* and set during the 1st Crusade, about a sorceress deranged by her unrequited love for a Christian knight. Sung in French; English supertitles. 7:30 p.m., *Power Center*. Tickets \$18 & \$24 (students, \$9) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★**Faculty Recital: EMU Music Department.** EMU music faculty TBA perform a program of chamber works TBA. 8 p.m., *EMU Pease Auditorium*, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**"Carioca Nights": Acaizeiro (Kerrytown Concert House).** Local septet, led by singer-guitarist Justin Douglas, plays classic sambas, Brazilian jazz, and lesser-known Brazilian genres such as frevo and maracatu. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$12 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★**"Uncle Vanya": Maly Drama Theater of St. Petersburg (University Musical Society).** Mar. 25-28. Using costumes reminiscent of the play's 1899 premiere, Lev Dodin directs this renowned theater company in Chekhov's masterpiece, a richly varied ensemble piece about the search for happiness—from love, achievement, or nature—at various stages of life. "The visual beauty of [Dodin's] work is com-

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bined with insightful intelligence," says a *Curtain Up* review, which adds that this production has "captured the very essence of Chekhov's vision of humanity: life on an interminably falling cadence with characters... who are extremely poignant and affecting." Russian, supertitles. 8 p.m. (Mar. 25-27) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 28), Power Center. \$18-\$56 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

Julia Fischer: University Musical Society. See 24 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Gravity": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Jim McHugh: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Mar. 25-27. A frequent performer on cable TV comedy shows, this Chicago monologist is known for his quick-witted, thought-provoking observations of the absurdities of family life, traveling, professional sports, and other aspects of everyday life. He also possesses deft improv skills and likes to keep his audiences off balance. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all Fri. & Sat. early shows are nonsmoking. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$7 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

26 FRIDAY

★"Nicotine as a Reinforcing Drug: From Science to the Shaping of Policy": U-M Substance Abuse Research Center. Lectures and panel discussions by visiting scholars. Lunch. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., SPH Auditorium, 1415 Washington Hts. Free. Preregistration required. 615-2929.

"Once Upon a Time": Wild Swan Theater. See 25 Thursday. 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

★"Literary Worlds after 1989: Suffering Multitudes, Spectatorial Mediations": U-M German Department. Lecture by Australian National University literature professor Debjani Ganguly. 2-4 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 763-4496.

U-M Baseball vs. Indiana/Purdue-Fort Wayne: Mar. 26-28. The March schedule also includes a home game against EMU (Mar. 30, 3 p.m.). 3 p.m. (Mar. 26) & 1 p.m. (Mar. 27 & 28), Ray Fisher Stadium. \$5 (youths age 12 & under, \$3; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★"Intermission": Ann Arbor Art Center. A speaker TBA discusses this multimedia exhibit that is part of the Ann Arbor Film Festival (see Films). Followed by a Q&A with the artists. 4-7 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994-8004.

★"Victims & Heroes": U-M Philosophy Department Tanner Lecture on Human Values. Lecture by Einstein Forum (Potsdam, Germany) director Susan Neiman, author of *Moral Clarity: A Guide for Grown-Up Idealists*. Also on March 27, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3 other visiting scholars—University of Chicago social thought professor Lorraine Daston, Columbia University philosophy professor Philip Kitcher, and Princeton University humanities professor Alexander Nehamas—join Reinhardt for a symposium on her lecture. 4-6 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. Free. 764-6285.

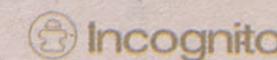
★"Dream Awake: How James Joyce Invented Experimental Cinema and Disguised It as a Book": Ann Arbor District Library. L.A.-based writer, lecturer, and media ecologist Gerry Fialka (see 22 Monday "John Sinclair & Gerry Fialka" listing) presents his acclaimed interactive program. "Fialka's 'Dream Awake' is a great, entertaining, eye-opening, mind-widening, and provocative event," says Joyce scholar John Bishop. "It amply demonstrated for me Marshall McLuhan's assertion that *Finnegan's Wake* is a 'memory theater for the entire contents of human consciousness and unconsciousness.'" 5-6:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

"Winter Jam 10": EMU Convocation Center. With several Christian pop musicians, including the veteran Valdosta (GA) rock quartet (and Winter Jam founder) NewSong, the Atlanta rock quartets Third Day and Revive, the Tennessee rock band Newsboys, the West Palm Beach indie rock trio Tenth Avenue North, the Orlando rock quintet Fireflight, the Southern rock quartet MIKESCHAIR, and Orlando pop-rock singer-songwriter Robert Pierre. Also, guest speaker Tony Nolan, an itinerant evangelist from Georgia. 6 p.m., EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. \$10 at the door only. 487-2282.

"The Dixie Swim Club": Chelsea Area Players. Mar. 26-28. Diana Hunt directs local actors in a dinner theater production of Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooten's comedy about 5 middle-age women who have been friends since college. Time TBA, Chelsea Community Hospital Dining Room, 775 S. Main, Chelsea. Tickets TBA at chelseareaplayers.org.

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. See 19 Friday. Today: prose by Emily McLaughlin and poetry by Joshua Boucher. 7 p.m.

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“The Enchanted Attic”: Young Actors Guild. See 25 Thursday. 7 p.m.

“Hotel Paradiso”: EMU Theater Department. See 19 Friday. 7 p.m.

“The Candy Dancer”: Thurston Community Players. See 25 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★“Harpsichord Extravaganza”: EMU Music Department. EMU music faculty and students perform harpsichord works TBA. 7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Organ Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★Marc Mauer: U-M Prison Creative Arts Project. The Sentencing Project executive director discusses the history of mass incarceration, the current U.S. incarceration crisis, and what needs to be done about it. Part of the PCAP 20th Anniversary Symposium. For full schedule, see prisonarts.org. 7:30 p.m., location TBA. 647-7673.

“Wonderful Town”: Greenhills School. Mar. 26-28. Emily Wilson-Tobin directs upper school students in Betty Comden and Adolph Green’s witty, fun-filled musical, a love letter to 1930s New York City, the story of 2 small-town sisters following their dreams who find adventures and misadventures in the heart of Greenwich Village. The energetic Leonard Bernstein score, though written in a scant 5 weeks, was his only score to win a Tony. 7:30 p.m. (Mar. 26 & 27) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 27 & 28), Greenhills School 850 Greenhills Dr. Tickets \$10 (students & seniors, \$8). 769-4010.

“Village Jump”: Sole Full of Rhythm. See 25 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★Performing Arts Technology Showcase: U-M School of Music. A kaleidoscope of electroacoustic music by performing arts technology students. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★Concordia University Choir Spring Concert: Concordia University. Program TBA. 8 p.m., Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995-4612.

Spring Concert: U-M Harmonettes. This all-female a cappella ensemble performs pop songs by everyone from Aretha Franklin to Billy Joel. 8 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. \$8 (students, \$6). umharmonettes.com.

Michael Johnson: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). A veteran folk-based pop singer and virtuoso guitarist who started out (with John Denver) as a member of a late-60s incarnation of the Chad Mitchell Trio, Johnson has scored in a number of different genres, including adult contemporary in the late 70s and contemporary country in the mid-80s. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

“Alice in Wonderland”: U-M Residential College Players. Mar. 26-28. Ben Stange directs fellow RC students in Andre Gregory’s 1970 Manhattan Project adaptation of the Lewis Carroll classic that offers a caustic and giddy revelation of the human psyche and its dark, unsettling shadows. 8 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. \$5 (students, \$3). 647-4354.

“Armide”: U-M Opera Theatre Department. See 25 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Uncle Vanya”: Maly Drama Theater of St. Petersburg (University Musical Society). See 25 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Gravity”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Jim McHugh: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 25 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

27 SATURDAY

Biannual African Violet Show and Sale: Michigan African Violet Society. Mar. 27 & 28. Show and sale of hundreds of African violets. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (Mar. 27) & 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (Mar. 28), U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 647-7600.

★“Michigan Harpsichord Saturday”: U-M School of Music. An opportunity to play and listen to harpsichords. Recitals by U-M music professor Edward Parmentier and U-M music students Eboni Garrett-Bluford and Sunah Lee. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★“Sign Language for Infants and Toddlers”: Ann Arbor District Library. Kathy Brady presents a program of songs, games, and other activities for infants and toddlers (accompanied by a parent) to introduce them to the Signing Smart method of American sign language. 11-11:45 a.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4200.

★“Easter Egg Scramble”: Ann Arbor Jaycees. All kids, accompanied by a parent, invited for egg hunts, pictures with the Easter Bunny, games, and egg deco-

rating. Proceeds benefit Ronald McDonald House. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Vets Park. Free, but donations accepted. 913-9628.

“Once Upon a Time”: Wild Swan Theater. See 25 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★“Museum Discoveries”: U-M Exhibit Museum. A variety of family-oriented activities exploring what the U-M science museums do and how they assemble their exhibits. Also, behind-the-scenes tours of the Museums of Anthropology, Paleontology, and Zoology, as well as the Exhibit Museum of Natural History. Noon-4 p.m., Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

“Strike Out HIV/AIDS Bowl-a-Thon”: HIV/AIDS Resource Center Fund-Raiser. All invited for pizza and bowling. Prizes. 1 p.m. (check-in begins at noon), Colonial Lanes, 1950 South Industrial. \$20 donation. Preregistration requested at hivadsresource.org. 572-9355.

“Bacon Curfew: A Benefit Chow Down for Breakin’ Curfew”: Neutral Zone. Zingerman’s cofounder Ari Weinzenegger discusses his recent book *Zingerman’s Guide to Better Bacon*. Also, pancakes, bacon, and tastings of bacon recipes from area restaurants, and a bacon open-mike for anyone who wants to perform an ode to pork. 1:30-4 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. \$12 (students, \$8) in advance at neutral-zone.org, and at the door. 214-9995.

★“Positive Space”: U-M School of Music. U-M music students perform works composed by U-M percussion in various galleries throughout the UMMA. 2-5 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0594.

“The Enchanted Attic”: Young Actors Guild. See 25 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★Trumpet Ensembles: EMU Music Department. Carter Eggers directs EMU trumpet students and alumni in an eclectic program of music for trumpet ensembles. 3 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★“Opera Workshop Gala”: EMU Music Department Opera Workshop. MeeAe Nam and Robert Peavler direct EMU opera students in scenes from operas TBA. 4 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

Chili Cook-Off: Bethlehem United Church of Christ. A chance to sample different chili recipes. Followed at 6:30 p.m. by a variety show. 5 p.m., Bethlehem UCC, 423 S. 4th Ave. Donation. 665-6149.

“Irish Ceili”: Clonlara School. An Irish dinner with corned beef, Guinness stew, Dover sole, winter vegetables, and a barley dish (vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free options available). Also, live music TBA and a cash bar. 5-9 p.m., Clonlara School, 1289 Jewett. Tickets \$15 (kids ages 6-18, \$10; kids age 5 & under, free) in advance at Clonlara or by emailing vik@clonlara.org. 926-4606.

★Kristy Meretta 30th Anniversary Benefit Oboe Recital: EMU Music Department. EMU oboe professor Meretta celebrates her 30 years at the school with a recital featuring solo and chamber works by Bach, Francaix, Mark Phillips, Finzi, and Szervansky. She is joined by several faculty colleagues, including soprano MeeAe Nam, harpsichordist James Wagner, cellist Diane L. Winder, pianist Anne Beth Gajda, flutist Julie Stone, clarinetist Kimberly Cole, bassoonist David M. Pierce, hornist Denise Root Pierce, and senior oboist Lauren Vechinski. Oboe alumni and friends in the audience conclude the program with an upbeat rag for all-oboe choir by Charles Sayre. Proceeds benefit the Fitch/Meretta Oboe Scholarship Fund. 5 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free admission; donations accepted. 487-2255.

“The Dixie Swim Club”: Chelsea Area Players. See 26 Friday. Time TBA.

Benefit Show, Pie Sale, and Silent Auction: Community High School Ensemble Theater. This Community High School troupe, along with members of other local high school performances groups, presents a family-oriented program of scenes and musical numbers from recent productions. Also, a silent auction of low-cost items and sale of a huge variety of pies and pie slices. A benefit for CET. 7 p.m., Community High School Craft Theater, 401 N. Division. (Parking available in the lot behind the school, N. Fifth Ave. at Detroit St.) \$15 (kids, students, & seniors, \$10) at the door only. 662-1693.

“Hotel Paradiso”: EMU Theater Department. See 19 Friday. 7 p.m.

“The Candy Dancer”: Thurston Community Players. See 25 Thursday. 7 p.m.

“Wonderful Town”: Greenhills School. See 26 Friday. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

“Village Jump”: Sole Full of Rhythm. See 25 Thursday. 4 & 7:30 p.m.

★Ypsilanti Community Band. EMU band director Max Plank conducts this 70-member volunteer band in marches, new band music, and more. 7:30 p.m.,

WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg: Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 904-5453.

International Folk Dancing. Balkan and Israeli dancing to live music by the Ethnic Connection. 8-11 p.m., the barn at Gretchen’s House V, 2625 Traver. \$8-\$10 (students, \$3-\$5) donation. 995-0011.

4th Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. With live music by the Pittsfield Open Band. No partner needed. All dances taught. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a lesson. 8-11 p.m., Gretchen’s House, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). Donation. 730-6919.

Winter Concert: U-M Amazin’ Blue. The oldest U-M coed a cappella ensemble performs pop songs TBA. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets \$12 (students, \$7) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and at the door. 763-TKTS.

David Mosher: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. Local singer-songwriter and multi-instrumental string virtuoso who plays bluegrass, jazz, folk-rock, and original tunes. 8-10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Donation. 327-0270.

★Edward Parmentier & Aaron Berofsky: U-M School of Music. See review, p. 61. Harpsichordist Parmentier and violinist Berofsky, both U-M professors, perform works by Corelli, Locatelli, and Veracini. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★“Refrigerate after Opening: Fresh New Music for Bassoon”: U-M School of Music. Bassoonist Jeffrey Lyman and pianist Amy Cheng—both U-M professors—are joined by grad student percussionists Neeraj Mehta and Dane Crozier in works by Jacob TV, Michael Daugherty, John Steinmetz, Theodor Burkhardt, Alfonso Fuentes, and Fabrice Junger. 8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

Constellation Nero: Kerrystown Concert House. This ensemble of Midwest jazz improvisers is known for the distinctive timbre of its pieces pairing contralto clarinets with the traditional Mongolian morin khuur (horsehead fiddle). Musicians include cellist and morin khuur player Abby Alwin, percussionist Curtis Glatter, trumpeter James Cornish, and reedmen Piotr Michalowski and Marco Novachkoff. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

“Armide”: U-M Opera Theatre Department. See 25 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Alice in Wonderland”: U-M Residential College Players. See 26 Friday. 8 p.m.

“Gravity”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 3 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

“Uncle Vanya”: Maly Drama Theater of St. Petersburg (University Musical Society). See 25 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jim McHugh: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 25 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

“Girls Night Out with Tracy Mack”: Shout Cabaret and Gallery. Performances by local blues-rock and folk-rock singer-songwriter Mack and Tret Fure, a virtuoso pop-rock guitarist and songwriter who got her start with the Spencer Davis Group in the early 70s. 9 p.m.-midnight, Shout, 325 Braun Ct. \$15 cover. 663-0036.

★“Hedwig and the Angry Inch”: U-M Basement Arts. Mark Ayesh and Leonard Navarro direct U-M students in John Cameron Mitchell and Stephen Trask’s brassy, joyous rock opera about a transsexual from divided Berlin who survives a truncated sex change operation and several wounding betrayals to continue touring with her obscure band and searching for her “other half.” 11 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement.studentorgs.umich.edu.

28 SUNDAY

Easter Egg Hunt: Hudson Mills Metropark. For kids age 12 & under. Also, petting farm, face painting, and a chance to visit with the Easter Bunny. Noon, park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$3 in advance, \$5 at the gate. \$4 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

★“Stinchfield Woods Hike: Huron Valley Sierra Club. A club member leads a 5-mile hike through hilly terrain. 1 p.m., meet at Zingerman’s Roadhouse to carpool, 2501 Jackson. Free. 971-1157.

Gemini: The Ark. Family concert by this popular acoustic duo that has built a strong following among kids and adults throughout the Great Lakes area. Twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits offer sing-alongs, folk songs from around the world, and upbeat originals about life’s simple pleasures, all performed with a boisterous sense of fun on more than a dozen instruments. The duo’s latest release is the Parents Choice Award-winning CD *The Orches-*

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tra Is Here to Play, a live recording with the local Phoenix Ensemble that offers young listeners an accessible way to venture into the world of classical music while enjoying folk songs written just for kids. The twins are joined today by their Good Mischief Band—pianist Brian Brill, percussionist Aron Kauffman, and San's daughter, fiddler Emily Rose Slomovits. 1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$10 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★“Seven Nights to Read”: Ann Arbor District Library. The Philadelphia-based children’s music duo Two of a Kind, the nationally known husband-and-wife team David and Jenny Heitler-Klevans, present an interactive program that mixes songs, puppets, movement, and stories for kids in grades K-5. 2-2:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild. All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2-4 p.m., Nicola’s Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-5763.

★U-M Javanese Gamelan Ensemble: U-M School of Music. This renowned ensemble, a perennial favorite with local audiences, performs traditional Japanese gamelan music, along with the world premiere of a work by New Zealand composer Gareth Farr. The gamelan is an assembly of 50 gongs and metallophones, drums, strings, flutes, xylophone, and singers, and traditional gamelan music is a gorgeous concatenation of nonharmonic melodies built on cycles marked by the largest gong and subdivided by the other instruments. Founded in 1966, the U-M’s Gamelan Ensemble is one of the oldest in the U.S. 2 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

“Armide”: U-M Opera Theatre Department. See 25 Thursday. 2 p.m.

“Wonderful Town”: Greenhills School. See 26 Friday. 2 p.m.

“Uncle Vanya”: Maly Drama Theater of St. Petersburg (University Musical Society). See 25 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Children’s Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 7 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★Society of Women Engineers Book Club. All invited to join a discussion of Jerry Dennis’s *The Living Great Lakes: Searching for the Heart of the Inland Seas*, the 2009 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads book. 4 p.m., Borders cafe, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

“The Dixie Swim Club”: Chelsea Area Players. See 26 Friday. Time TBA.

“Polish Popular Music of the 17th Century”: Greensleaves (Academy of Early Music). This Canadian septet performs late-Renaissance and early-Baroque Polish court music, including pavanes, galliards, and canzones, along with dances and songs. Members include viola da gambist Marilyn Fung, violist and recorder player Shannon Purves-Smith, lutenist Magdalena Tomsinka, virginals and recorder player Michael Purves-Smith, soprano Stephanie Kramer, mezzo-soprano Jennifer Enns-Modolo, and baritone Nathaniel Wiseman. 4 p.m., Community of Christ Church, 520 W. Jefferson. \$15 (seniors, \$12; students, \$5) at the door only. 528-1838.

“Let It Rise” Benefit Concert: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Performances by the St. Leo Parish (Detroit) gospel choir, St. Francis members, local singer-songwriter Joe Reilly, and others. Proceeds benefit the music programs at St. Leo Parish. Preceded at 5:30-7 p.m. by a spaghetti dinner (\$8; kids age 11 & under, \$5; families, \$25) to benefit the St. Francis middle school choir. 7:30 p.m., St. Francis, 2250 E. Stadium. Donation. 821-2124.

“Music for Contemplation”: St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church. See 7 Sunday. Tonight: Warren Puffer Jones directs Ann Arbor Cantata Singers in excerpts from Bach’s *St. John’s Passion*. 7:30 p.m.

“Alice in Wonderland”: U-M Residential College Players. See 26 Friday. 8 p.m.

29 MONDAY

★“The Policy and Politics of the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative”: U-M Ford School of Public Policy. Panel discussion with Michigan Department of Corrections director Patricia Caruso, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections chair Alma Wheeler Smith and vice-chair John Proos, and Booth Newspapers Lansing correspondent Peter Luke. 4-5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615-3893.

★“Paved Roads Country Roads Ride”: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Mon. beginning Mar. 29. Fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced training ride, 18-24 miles, along country roads west of town. 5 p.m., meet at Royster Clark, 885 Parker Rd. at Pine Cross Lane (just south of Jackson Rd.), Scio Twp. Free. 426-5116.

★“A Survivor’s Journey from Cambodia’s Killing Fields to U.S. Diplomat”: U-M Ford Presidential Library. Former deputy U.S. ambassador to the UN Sihan Siv discusses *Golden Bones*, his memoir about his escape from the Khmer Rouge slave labor camps to build a new life in America. Signing and reception. 7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205-0555.

★Donald George: EMU Music Department. Recital by SUNY Crane School of Music professor George, an established lyric tenor in the opera houses and concert halls of Europe. He is accompanied by pianist Lucy Mauro. Program TBA. 7:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

30 TUESDAY

★“Béla Balázs and the Fairy-Tale Close-up”: U-M German Department. Lecture by University of Warwick (England) German studies professor Erica Carter. 4-6 p.m., 1014 Tisch, 435 S. State. Free. 763-4496.

★“Thinking Locally, Acting Globally: Women of Color with an International Agenda”: U-M Center for the Education of Women. Panel discussion with U-M faculty and staff members who discuss their research and activism as women of color. 4-6 p.m., U-M Palmer Commons Great Lakes Room, 100 Washenaw. Free. Preregistration required at cew.umich.edu. 764-6005.

★“A Tribute to Women Singers, Songwriters, and Musicians throughout History”: Ann Arbor District Library. The award-winning veteran Grand Rapids jazz singer Mary Rademacher performs songs made famous by Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Peggy Lee, Linda Ronstadt, and other women. She is accompanied by the husband-and-wife duo of keyboardist Tom and drummer Cherie Hagen. 7-8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★“Low-Brass Fest”: EMU Music Department. Matthew Tropman and Donald Babcock conduct their euphonium, trombone, and tuba students in a program of music for low brass instruments. 8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★“Chamber Music with Harp”: U-M School of Music. U-M harp professor Joan Holland is joined by various music faculty colleagues in Bach’s Sonata no. 1, Guy Ropartz’s *Marine et Chansons*, and trios by Ibert for violin, cello, and harp and by Debussy for flute, viola, and harp. Other performers are Flutist Amy Porter, violinist Kathryn Votapek, violinist Yizhak Schotten, cellist Anthony Elliott, and bassist Diana Gannett. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

31 WEDNESDAY

★“Kids Club Spring Cookie Decorating”: Washtenaw Whole Foods Market. All kids age 5 & older (accompanied by a parent) invited to decorate cookies. 4 p.m., Whole Foods, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 975-4500.

★“Chinese Calligraphy: Seeing an Ancient Art Through Modern Eyes”: U-M Art History Department Charles Lang Freer Lecture. Talk by New York City Chinese and Japanese painting and calligraphy collector Christopher Luce. 4:30 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-5400.

★“Are We Now Conceptually in a Post-Multilingualism Era? An Analysis of a South African Film”: U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies. Talk by Penn State linguistics professor Sinfree Makoni. 5:30 p.m., 4701 Haven Hall, 505 S. State. 764-5513.

★“Musical Zoo”: Barnes & Noble. A family-oriented program featuring a scavenger hunt, a hands-on introduction to a variety of musical instruments presented by U-M music students, and a craft table where participants can make their own musical instrument. 6-8 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

“Lafite and Mouton”: Eve. Tastings of ‘88 and ‘89 wines from the Bordeaux estates of Lafite and Mouton Rothschild. Light dinner. 7 p.m., Eve, Kerrystown. \$250 (plus tax and gratuity). Reservations required. 222-0711.

★Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. See 10 Wednesday. Tonight: poetry readings by Hopwood-winning U-M creative writing program assistant director Megan Levad, author of the forthcoming collection *Spinning Jenny* and a collection of murder ballads to be performed in April, and Josie Kearns, a U-M English and creative writing lecturer known for her humorous, witty urban poetry. 7-9:30 p.m.

“Comedy Jamm”: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 17 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinckley

Listings are based on information available at press time. It's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main

761-1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.-Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio and the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. **Mar. 3: Catie Curtis.** A highly regarded young singer-songwriter from Maine, who lived in Ann Arbor for a few years in the early 90s, Curtis writes engaging, down-to-earth songs about the pleasures and tragedies of ordinary life. She's also known for her expansive, soaring vocals, her percussive guitar style, and her musical blend of folk, blues, and pop. "Any fool can write a love-gone-wrong song; it takes a real genius to write a love-gone-right one. No urban songwriter does that better than Curtis," says *Boston Globe* critic Scott Alarik in his review of Curtis's 2007 CD *Long Night Moon*. "She sings grippingly about love's better moments: tracing the shadows on a lover's face, and the sweet delights of staying warm on a cold day." Curtis has a brand-new CD, *Sweet Life*. \$20. **Mar. 4:**

Monte Montgomery. Alabama-bred, Austin-based folk-rock singer-songwriter and acoustic guitar wizard whose virtuosic fretwork and blend of finger- and pick-style playing have earned him the title of "The Evel Knievel of Guitar." \$15. **Mar. 5: Howie Day.** 25-year-old folk-rock singer-songwriter from Bangor, Maine, known for his emotionally direct lyrics, melodic inventiveness, and lively, passionate vocals. Opening act is **Serena Ryder**, a young Canadian folk-rock singer-songwriter whose confident, soulful voice sounds much older than her years. \$20. **Mar. 6: Po' Girl.** Alt-folk acoustic quartet from Vancouver whose music blends Depression-era blues & jazz, Cajun, and R&B flavors, spiked with a streak of edgy street punk poetry. "It's the lazy sway of Po' Girl's music, a hypnotic and humid sway that's hard to resist," says *All Music Guide* writer David Jeffries in his review of the band's debut CD *Vagabond Lullabies*. "The porches in Vancouver must be wonderful places to play music, since there is a genuine smile that comes through Po' Girl's music, and despite all the wandering, the tunes always come home in the end." The band has a new CD, *Deer in the Night*. Opening act is **JT Nero**, a Chicago soul-folk fusion singer-songwriter. \$15. **Mar. 7: Richard Shindell.** A former bandmate of John Gorka in the Razzle Dazzle Spasm Band, Shindell is a veteran folk-rock singer-songwriter who burst onto the national scene in 1992 with *Sparrow's Point*, a widely acclaimed LP that included "Kenworth of My Dreams," a song Ramblin' Jack Elliott has called one of the best truck songs he's ever heard. "Like Bruce Springsteen and Lucinda Williams, he dwells on big, often difficult moments in the lives of ordinary people. By staying with them even as he flies into metaphor, he maintains equanimity," says *New York Times* music critic Ann Powers. He has an acclaimed new CD, *Not Far Now*. Opening act is **Antje Duvekot**, a fast-rising young German American singer-songwriter from Boston known for her hushed, conversational singing and darkly resonant, introspectively personal ballads. "I think she's going to be the next great American folk singer-songwriter," says Ellis Paul. \$20. **Mar. 8: Scythian.** See review, p. 35. Young Washington, D.C., quartet that plays Celtic-inspired original music in infectiously high-energy arrangements that incorporate a rock 'n' roll spirit and an array of stylistic influences from classical to East European and Middle Eastern music. "With only a thirty-to-forty-minute framework, Scythian took the sedate Monday night crowd aback from the start with a fierce twin fiddle instrumental and rarely let up on the intensity after that with polka and gypsy songs thrown in among the more obviously Irish-inspired tunes," says *Music That Matters* critic Kevin Oliver in a review of one of the band's live shows. "By set's end the crowd was on their feet, clapping in rhythm and even stomping their feet, chairs forgotten for the moment." \$12.50. **Mar. 10: Horse Feathers.** Country-folk chamber quartet from Portland (OR) led by Idaho-bred singer-songwriter Justin Ringle. "Horse Feathers constructs music out of fragile whispers and half-remembered dreams, eagerly filling in the gaps between Sufjan Stevens and Iron & Wine on

Gas for Less

Honky-tonk misery

So far, there are two Gas For Less songs that choke me up. I'm not alone. Someone posted on front man Ryan Racine's Facebook profile, "FU for making me cry into my whiskey... Shut your guitar."

Racine, sincerely baffled, replied, "Since when is crying into your whiskey a bad thing?"

Racine's music is happily immersed in vintage honky-tonk misery. Look at these lyrics to "Born Sorry," a full-twang-ahead original that's a staple of his live set. Sweet, slow acoustic picking is joined by slide guitar that accentuates without overwhelming the simple tune:

I was born sorry
I'm the king of regret
Yeah, I'm sorry for what I've done
And things I ain't done yet
Some are born lucky
Some are born to win
I was born sorry
So don't ask me to apologize again

Racine was just fifteen when he fronted the popular Community High rockabilly trio Lucky Haskins. They opened for rockabilly legend Carl Perkins, performed at the 1995 Detroit Music Awards, and built a solid fan base. He's since worked as guitarist for Los Diablos and KC Groves and was a founding member of the popular Irish-punk group Moog Doyle. In GFL, he writes, sings lead, and plays acoustic and electric guitars, performing both originals and standards from the golden age of country.

The other guys in Gas For Less are local

music veterans: Alex Anest (of Delta 88) on Telecaster, drummer Dave McWilliam, and bassist and backup vocalist Keith Meisel. Anest plays smoothly, eyes closed and head back, barely moving, even during a raucous Elvis song, at the end of which he holds one pure note till it drops to the floor.

The original "Last Time I'm Gone" is moderately paced and mellow and a bit dark:

I've had more abuse
than I can blame myself for
But I'm sure that I deserve
what I've returned for again and again
There's not one excuse
I see fit for use
I've worn out every reason
I could fabricate to let you back in

\$2). **Mar. 18: Grant-Lee Phillips.** The former frontman of the popular postpunk folk-rock band Grant Lee Buffalo, Phillips has reemerged as an acoustic Americana singer-songwriter who writes gorgeously evocative songs on an array of public and private themes. "My albums are becoming more stark, more unguarded, and more vulnerable," Phillips says of his new CD *Little Moon*. "This is the most unselfconscious record I have made—ever." \$15. **Mar. 19: John Oates.** Best known as one half of the popular 70s pop-soul duo Hall & Oates, Oates has also released several solo CDs, including the recent *1000 Miles of Life*, which showcase his trademark blend of R&B, pop, and folk idioms. A benefit for the Ark. \$35. **Mar. 20: Jer Coons.** Young Vermont pop singer-songwriter known for his irresistible melodies. Opening act is **Isaac Clark**, winner of the Ark @ UMMA Student Songwriter Series this past fall. \$15. **Mar. 21: The Boxcars.** New all-star bluegrass band led by Union Station and Mountain Heart mandolinist Adam Steffey banjoist Ron Stewart, fiddler John Bowman, guitarist Keith Garrett, and bassist Harold Nixon. \$17.50. **Mar. 22: Nitty Gritty Dirt Band.** Legendary country-oriented folk-rock band best known for its 1970 hit cover of Jerry Jeff Walker's "Mr. Bojangles" and for "Will the Circle Be Unbroken," a 1972 3-record set that reunited several generations of country musicians and introduced them to pop audiences. Its new *Speed of Life* CD features 11 originals, along with covers of Canned Heat's "Going Up the Country" and Stealers Wheel's "Stuck in the Middle with You." \$35. **Mar. 23: Sweet Talk Radio and Carrie Elkin.** Double bill. Sweet Talk Radio is the L.A.-based husband-and-wife pop-folk duo of vocalist Kathrin Shorr and guitarist Tim Burlingame. Their recent CD *My Hallelujah* has provoked comparisons to Simon & Garfunkel for both its evocative songwriting and gorgeous, stirring vocal harmonies. Elkin

honky-tonk



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

music veterans: Alex Anest (of Delta 88) on Telecaster, drummer Dave McWilliam, and bassist and backup vocalist Keith Meisel. Anest plays smoothly, eyes closed and head back, barely moving, even during a raucous Elvis song, at the end of which he holds one pure note till it drops to the floor.

The original "Last Time I'm Gone" is moderately paced and mellow and a bit dark:

I've had more abuse
than I can blame myself for
But I'm sure that I deserve
what I've returned for again and again
There's not one excuse
I see fit for use
I've worn out every reason
I could fabricate to let you back in

This is the last time I'm gone
Won't be around again tomorrow
Make-believing like there's
nothing here that's wrong

On stage, Racine's showmanship matches his musical skill. He croons through a sneered upper lip, dropping his chin to his chest and treating us to a perfect cowboy hat silhouette. He sweeps his guitar high in the air, showing off his fancy guitar work and huge belt buckle. It works. I've seen plenty of women shark around him once he comes off stage, waiting in line for a touch of that heartbreak.

Ryan Racine and Gas For Less are at Ypsi's Keystone Underground Martini Bar on Friday, March 19.

—Charmie Gholson

is a fast-rising young country-folk Austin-based singer-songwriter who has been compared to the likes of Nanci Griffith and Iris Dement. *Maverick* (UK) magazine praises her latest CD *The Jeopardy of Circumstance* for its "warm, earthy poetry that combines a strong folk/soul framework, sweet-toned but characterful vocals, and quietly offbeat writing that never seems willfully eccentric." FREE. **Mar. 24: Adrian Legg.** This celebrated acoustic guitar virtuoso is a perennial winner of *Guitar Player* magazine's Best Fingerstylist award. Legg's compositions, alternately joyful and soaring or moody and melancholy, offer an elegant, intricate blend of country, jazz, folk, rock, Celtic, and classical idioms, and his work is especially known for his melodic inventiveness. But it is the dazzling, dizzying blend of speed, precision, and witty playfulness in his guitar work that leaves audiences and critics gasping. "To say that Legg is a good player is like saying Menuhin saws a fine fiddle," says one reviewer. His live shows also feature his deadpan humor and hilarious stories—a talent that has landed him a second career as a commentator-at-large on NPR's *All Things Considered*. \$17.50. **Mar. 25: Altan.** Currently celebrating its 25th anniversary, this sextet from County Donegal in northwestern Ireland performs traditional Irish music in a style that blends the melodic sweetness of Irish tunes with the power and drive of Scottish music. Led by fiddler and vocalist Mairead Ni Mhaonaigh, who sings in Gaelic and English, the group also includes bouzouki player Ciaran Curran, guitarists Daithi Sproule and Mark Kelly, fiddler Ciaran Tourish, and accordionist Dermot Byrne. The *Chicago Tribune* calls Altan "the most influential traditional group to emerge from Ireland since the semi-famous Bothy Band." \$25. **Mar. 26: Paul Thorn.** Dark, bluesy, sharp-witted, pungently idiomatic original songs by this veteran Mississippi singer-songwriter, the son of a tent revival minister and former professional boxer. His music often provokes

Music at Nightspots

comparisons to Lyle Lovett, and his recent CD *Mission Temple Fireworks Stand* is an engagingly varied collection of trenchantly funny and seductively tenderhearted songs. All Music Guide writer Thom Jurek calls Thorn a "soul singer who can slip down into the murk and mess of human emotions with style and aplomb." Opening act is **Elizabeth Cook**, an Americana folk singer-songwriter from Florida who calls herself a "hippie diva with a scuffing country show." \$20. **Mar. 27: South Memphis String Band.** This all-star trio of southern roots music singer-guitarists—veteran bluesman **Alvin "Youngblood" Hart**, North Mississippi Allstars frontman **Luther Dickinson**, and Squirrel Nut Zippers frontman **Jimbo Mathus**—specializes in the distinctive prewar urban blues and street music associated with legendary Memphis bands like the Mississippi Sheiks, Cannon's Jug Stompers, and the Memphis Jug Band. \$20. **Mar. 28: "Michigan in Word and Songs."** In-the-round performances of songs, stories, and poems about Michigan hosted by veteran Detroit-area singer-songwriter **Jan Krist**. With Lansing-area folkabilly songwriter and multi-instrumental string virtuoso **Joel Mabus**, Detroit balladeer **Matt Watroba**, Detroit bluesman **Robert Jones**, Detroit populist poet **M.L. Liebler**, and award-winning Detroit singer-songwriter **Jim Bizer**. 13.50. **Mar. 29: Fabulous Thunderbirds.** Veteran Austin blues-rock band led by vocalist Kim Wilson that blends cutthroat Texas roadhouse blues, harmonica-driven swamp blues, and greasy R&B. \$30. **Mar. 30: "Celtic Crossroads."** An ensemble of 7 young Irish musicians performing on more than 20 instruments presents a high-spirited groove-oriented showcase of Celtic music that explores its influences on and connections with gypsy music, jazz, bluegrass, and other musical genres around the world. \$20. **Mar. 31: Bitch.** Inventive performance artist who sets her culturally and politically contentious post-beat lyrics to wildly offbeat, heavily percussive, and partly improvised music that she performs on electric violin, ukulele, and bass guitar. *The Advocate* calls her music "a torrid brew of sexually and politically charged spoken-sung lyrics, stripped-down instrumentation, and assorted tribal-edged percussion." \$15.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington **214-9995**

Enter at the rear of the parking lot on Fifth Ave. This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 13: Pi-Day's Eve Fest.** With live bands TBA. **Mar. 20: North?** Ypsilanti rock band. Opening acts are **Shakespeare's Dead**, an experimental electronic pop band, and **Fabricated**, a local noise band. **Mar. 27: Watabou.** Local indie pop-breakcore musician. Opening act is **Diavul**, a local grunge band.

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main **222-0400**

This seafood and martini bar features live music Wed., 7–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Mar. 3: Chris Genteel.** Rock and soul covers and originals by this local singer-songwriter. **Mar. 10: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Elbow Room. **Mar. 17: Beth Stalker & Jim Rawlings.** An eclectic mix of styles, from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country, by the Detroit Music Award-winning duo of singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings. **Mar. 24: Jody Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter who's been described as a hybrid of Bono and Bruce Springsteen. He is joined by backup vocalist and guitarist **Wes Buckley**. **Mar. 31: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Elbow Room.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996-8555**

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets. **Every Tues.** (except Mar. 9): **"Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands each week. **Mar. 3: TBA.** **Mar. 4: Greensky Bluegrass.** Kalamazoo bluegrass band that won the 2006 Telluride Bluegrass Band Competition. Opening act is **The Bearded Ladies**, a local Americana bluegrass quartet. Ad-

vance tickets: \$15. **Mar. 5: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **Mar. 6: Electric Six.** Energetic, irreverent Detroit guitar-based rock quintet whose music has been described as a "bizarre genetic splicing of punk, new wave, disco, and arena rock." Opening act is **Bars of Gold**, a Ferndale pop-rock quintet. Advance tickets: \$15. **Mar. 9: Tally Hall.** *All ages admitted.* Nationally acclaimed pop-rock quintet of U-M grads whose music draws on a wide range of influences from Bach and the Beatles to Motown and Eminem. Opening acts are the Washington, D.C., indie pop-rock trio **Jukebox the Ghost**, and the Chicago pop-rock dance quartet **Skybox**. Advance tickets: \$14. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Mar. 10: Algernon.** Westland-area arena rock band. Opening acts are **Seraphim**, also a Westland-area arena rock band, and **Broken Man**, a Toledo metal-rock band. **Mar. 11: Rubblebucket Orchestra.** 10-piece psychedelic, afrobeat, and rock band from New England. Named "Live Act of the Year" at the 2009 Boston Music Awards. Opening acts TBA. Advance tickets: \$8. **Mar. 12: Hana Malhas.** U-M student singer-songwriter, originally from Jordan, who writes intimate, thoughtful songs and accompanies herself on piano, guitar, and occasionally violin. Tonight she celebrates the release of her debut CD, *Shapeshift*. Opening acts are **Chris Bathgate**, a local singer-songwriter who writes heartfelt, poetic story songs in a variety of moods, and **Wolfie Complex** (see Circus). **Mar. 13:** Hip-hop show TBA. **Mar. 17: Honey & the Honey Bees.** U-M student indie rock band. Opening acts are 2 other U-M student rock bands, **Sha Sha La La** and **Jeremy & Demyan**. **Mar. 18: The Clientele.** London psychedelic pop quartet led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Alasdair Maclean. Opening acts are **Field Music**, a UK rock trio, and another band TBA. Advance tickets: \$12 (\$14 at the door). 8:30 p.m.–midnight. **Mar. 19: Sister Hazel.** Anthemic, guitar-fueled rock 'n' roll featuring crisp, stirring 4-part vocal harmonies by this Gainesville, FL, quartet. Opening acts are **Matt Duke**, a Philadelphia acoustic alternative rock trio, and another band TBA. Advance tickets: \$20. 9 p.m.–1 a.m. **Mar. 20: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Mar. 24: That 1 Guy.** The stage name of Mike Silverman, a Berkeley-based classically trained bassist who has created his own instrument, the "Magic Pipe," which his website describes as a "system of electronically wired steel plumbing, shaped somewhat like a harp, with a thick bass string wired from top to bottom and a hole that billows smoke during the climax of his live shows." Opening acts TBA. Advance tickets: \$10. 9 p.m.–12:30 a.m. **Mar. 25: The Wall Clocks.** Detroit indie rock band. Opening acts are the highly regarded local futuristic retro-rock trio **The Ultrasounds**, the Baltimore (MD) alternative blues-rock quartet **The Deep End**, the Detroit soulful country-rock quartet **The Scarlet Oaks**, and the **Ben Daniels Band**, a Chelsea folk-rock trio led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Daniels. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. **Mar. 26: Fair Harold.** Tentative. U-M student rock band TBA. **Mar. 27: "WCBN Cabaret."** Ad hoc ensembles of WCBN on-air DJs do their best to play songs requested at this U-M student-run radio station's recent on-air fund-raiser. **Mar. 31: Jedi Mind Tricks.** Popular Philadelphia hip-hop duo known for its edgy, violent lyrics. Opening acts TBA. Advance tickets: \$15.

Café Habana

211 E. Washington **332-6046**

The cellar bar of this downtown restaurant features salsa DJs, Thurs., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. & Sun., 8 p.m.–midnight. No cover, dancing.

The Circus

210 S. First St. **913-8890**

This 2nd-floor downtown club features live music on Wed. & occasional Thurs., 10 p.m.–2 a.m., and live music or DJs on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. in the street-level **Millennium Club** or basement **Cavern Club**. Karaoke, Thurs.–Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). Age 21 & older. **Mar. 3: The Henhouse Prowlers.** Traditional bluegrass by this Chicago band. **Mar. 10: Caravan of Thieves.** See The Ark. **Mar. 13: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Dearborn. Cover, dancing. In the Millennium Club. **Mar. 17: Wolfie Complex.** Local sextet, fronted by Milford-bred MC Nicole Price, whose music mixes folk, jazz, and hip-hop. **Mar. 20: Killer Flamingos.** See above. In the Millennium Club. **Mar. 24: Black Jake & the Carnies.** Ypsilanti octet that calls its energetic, foot-stomping blend of punk, old-time music, and bluegrass "crabgrass." All Music Guide writer Steve Leggett calls it "a kind of raucous

acoustic Americana that tosses postmodern Appalachian murder ballads, Irish drinking songs, skewed, twisted love songs and general cautionary tales into a stylistic blender that has them sounding like nothing so much as a maverick, hopped-up punk polka band in full 21st-century everything-fits jug band mode." **Mar. 27: Killer Flamingos.** See above. In the Millennium Club. **Mar. 31: Ypsitucky Colonels.** Local garage dance band whose music mixes country, blues, funk, and rock flavors. Members are Corndaddy guitarist Will Stewart and former Boomerangs guitarist R. Baker, bassist Eric Kelly from Dirt Road Logic, and former Destroy All Monsters drummer John Crawford.

Common Cup

1511 Washtenaw **327-6914**

This coffeehouse run by the University Lutheran Chapel features live music and other entertainment Fri., 8–9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. March schedule TBA.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main **665-2968**

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30–10 p.m. and Thurs. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Karaoke on Sun., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m. by karaoke. **Mar. 4: The Robin Horlock Band.** Northville pop-rock band. **Mar. 6: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by veteran local singer-songwriter Jerry Sprague's 2 sons. **Mar. 11: The Kreellers.** Detroit trio that plays traditional Irish music with rock energy and a punk edge. **Mar. 13: The Porter Sharks.** Tentative. Traditional Celtic music by this Cleveland band. 7 p.m.–1:30 a.m. **Mar. 18: Baked Potato.** Jam-oriented funk-rock band from Plymouth that plays originals and unusual covers. **Mar. 20: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues trio. **Mar. 25: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Mar. 27: Lucas Paul Band.** See Melange.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main **665-9468**

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30–10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Mar. 5: Koko Sankofa.** Renowned Ghanaian singer, composer, and guitarist, founder of Indigenous Groove. His repertoire ranges from soul and R&B to reggae and Afro-jazz. **Mar. 6: First Flight.** New local 7-piece jazz-funk band led by bassist Eileen Bristol. **Mar. 12: Marco and Asim.** Folk-rock and blues by the local duo of singer-guitarist Marco Brusche and bassist Asim Khan. **Mar. 13: As the Crow Flies.** Local acoustic alt-folk band led by singer-songwriter Sue Norman. **Mar. 19: TBA.** **Mar. 20: Billy King.** See Old Town. Tonight King is joined by other musicians TBA. **Mar. 26: Seven Bridges.** Country-rock originals by this Detroit trio led by singer-songwriter Keith Howard and featuring vocalist Lisa Chambers and bassist Dave Chambers. **Mar. 27: John Churchville.** This local tabla player presents an evening of Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. **827-2737**

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 28: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. 6:30–9 p.m.

Dreamland Theater

26 N. Washington, **Ypsilanti** **657-2337**

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features occasional live music, 9–11 p.m. or later. Cover (usually a donation), no dancing. **Mar. 5: Stone Crazy Pirates.** Local rock band. Opening acts TBA. **Mar. 7: Nautical Almanac.** Baltimore noise band, originally from Ann Arbor, that uses improvised electronic instruments. Opening acts TBA. **Mar. 26: Burning Cacti.** Canton experimental psychedelic pop band. Opening acts TBA. **Mar. 27: Sissy Spacek.** Grindcore quartet from L.A. Opening acts TBA.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington, **Ypsilanti** **483-6374**

This Ypsilanti tavern features live music and/or DJs Mon.–Thurs., 9 p.m.–1 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional Sun., 8 p.m.–midnight. Danc-

ing, no cover (\$5 suggested donation). **Every Sun.: Todd Osborne.** Detroit-area electronic musician. **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **Every Thurs.: "Mofo Karaoke."** With "the standard karaoke playlist crap plus 2,500+ obscure and awesome songs." **Mar. 2: "Tiki Tuesday."** The Elbow Room Tiki Tuesday band plays surf music and various exotica. Also, performances by the belly dancer **Aurora** and magician **Scarboni.** **Mar. 3: The Breakers.** Royal Oak surf garage trio. Opening acts TBA. **Mar. 5 & 6: TBA.** **Mar. 9: "No More Bunk Parties."** DJs Scarboni and VJCC spin soul, funk, and rock 'n' roll records. **Mar. 10: TBA.** **Mar. 12: Silverghost.** Detroit-area pop-rock band. Opening acts are **Secret Twins**, a local garage punk quartet, and **Ghostlady**, a local indie pop-rock trio. **Mar. 13: TBA.** **Mar. 16: "The Cycle."** DJs Blakguts and Joe Vargas spin funk, soul, and indie dance records. **Mar. 17: Black Jake & the Carnies.** See Circus. Opening acts are **The Darn Fools**, a local indie rock band featuring members of Black Jake & the Carnies and Ghostlady, and another band TBA. **Mar. 19: Hezekiah Jones.** Philadelphia pop-folk singer-songwriter. Opening acts are **Chris Kasper**, a Philadelphia alt-folk singer-songwriter, and **Wizards of Agriculture**, a new Ypsilanti band. **Mar. 20, 23, 24, & 26: TBA.** **Mar. 27: "Elbow Deep."** Gay and lesbian gala with Detroit DJ Humanfly. **Mar. 30: TBA.**

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron **752-5740**

Martini and cigar bar below Live at PJ's lounge. DJ Fri. & Sat. 11 p.m.–2 a.m., & occasional live music. Cover (except for Fri. happy hour bands), dancing. **Every Thurs.: TBA.** **Mar. 5: "5:01 Jazz Series."** With Dobbins, Weed, & Krahne, a local jazz ensemble featuring drummer Sean Dobbins, pianist Tad Weed, and bassist Kurt Krahne. 5–8 p.m. **Mar. 5: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis and Steve Earle. Note: This show is likely to be moved to Live at PJ's. 6:30–9 p.m. **Mar. 12: George Bedard & the Kingpins.** Superfine honky-tonk dance tunes from swing to vintage blues, country, rockabilly, and early rock 'n' roll classics, with some memorable originals penned by guitar genius Bedard. With drummer Rich Dishman and bassist Randy Tessier. The band has released 3 acclaimed CDs and is working on an all-instrumental CD that includes "Swing Minor 65," Bedard's surf-music adaptation of a Django Reinhardt tune. **Mar. 19: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. 6:30–9 p.m. **Mar. 26: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Chris G, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6:30–9 p.m. **Mar. 26: The Ultraviolet Hippopotamus.** Progressive-funk jam band from Big Rapids. 9 p.m.–2 a.m.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. **769-9800**

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 6: Saints of Soul.** Detroit R&B, soul, and funk septet fronted by vocalist Sorilbran Stone. **Mar. 13: The Bluescasters.** Veteran local blues and blues-rock quartet. **Mar. 20: Noteworthy.** Local funk-soul band. **Mar. 27: Al Hill & the Love Butlers.** Reunion of this veteran local band, led by Nashville-based Ann Arbor native Hill's wailing vocals and pumping piano, that plays soulful swing, New Orleans-style funk, and boogie-woogie blues.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. **665-3636**

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs., 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, DJ Mon., 7 p.m.–midnight, and solo pianists Tues.–Sun., 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Mar. 2–4: Dave Hamilton.** Pop covers by this versatile solo guitarist. **Mar. 5 & 6: Persuasion.** Versatile Detroit R&B dance band. **Mar. 9–11: Jackpot.** Toledo pop-rock duo fronted by vocalist Connie Sharp. **Mar. 12 & 13: Chateau.** Veteran pop dance band. **Mar. 16–18: Green-Eyed Soul.** Windsor pop trio fronted by vo-

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calists Melissa Danese and Fallon Deluca. **Mar. 19:** **Ultraviolet.** Detroit band that plays 70s & 80s rock hits. **Mar. 20:** **Alexander Zonjic.** Quintet led by this veteran Detroit pop-jazz flutist. **Mar. 23-25:** **Slice.** East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Mar. 26 & 27:** **Remedy.** Detroit dance band. **Mar. 30 & 31:** **Dave Hamilton.** See above.

The Halfass

Church St. entrance to East Quad

764-8558

Informal student-dominated cafe, also known as the Halfway Inn. Occasional live music, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 13:** **Our Brother the Native.** Local neo-soul R&B trio. Opening acts are the Detroit lo-fi psychedelic rock trio **Gardens**, the local postpunk rock duo **T-Bone & the Drones**, and another band TBA. **Mar. 19:** **The Ferdy Mayne.** Ypsilanti folk-rock trio that, according to *Real Detroit Weekly*, "finds the muddy creek where David Byrne's church-striding, big-shouldered cowboy meets Tom Waits's scruffy romantic with the cigarette-scorched croon." Opening acts are **Annie Palmer**, an Ypsilanti pop-folk singer-songwriter, and others TBA.

The Jolly Pumpkin

311 S. Main **913-2730**

The 2nd-floor lounge in this downtown brewpub features live music Thurs. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Mar. 2:** **Joe Summers Gypsy Jazz Trio.** This local trio led by guitar virtuoso Summers plays the music of Django Reinhardt, Charlie Christian, and Lenny Breau. With guitarist Chris Moyer and bassist Dave Sharp. **Mar. 4:** **Bob Skon Trio.** Folk-rock covers and originals by this trio led by Skon, a local singer-songwriter known for his wry songs about love and loss. **Mar. 9:** **Dan Runey.** Rock covers and originals by this Royal Oak singer-songwriter. **Mar. 11:** **Dave Sharp's Secret Seven.** Straight-ahead jazz by this ensemble led by veteran local bassist Sharp. **Mar. 16:** TBA. **Mar. 18:** **Bob Skon Trio.** See above. **Mar. 23:** **Dan Runey.** See above. **Mar. 25:** **Dave Sharp's Secret Seven.** See above. **Mar. 30:** **Joe Summers Gypsy Jazz Trio.** See above.

Keystone Underground

Martini Bar

200 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti **544-9960**

This basement lounge beneath J. Neil's Mongolian Grille features live music Mon. 8:15-11 p.m., Wed. 10 p.m.-2 a.m., Thurs., 8-11 p.m., & Fri. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, DJs on Wed. & Sat., 8 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.:** **Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Susan Chastain. **Every Wed.:** **Open Mike.** All musicians invited. 10 p.m. **Every Thurs.:** **II-V-I Orchestra.** See Creekside. With guest vocalist Jesse Sinatra, a local singer who specializes in the songs of Cole Porter, the Gershwin, Jerome Kern, and other classic early-20th-century American songwriters. **Mar. 5:** **Dragon Wagon.** Local experimental acoustic roots-music band. **Mar. 12:** **October Babies.** Self-styled "upbeat global soul" electronica-jazz quartet, led by the Ypsilanti husband-and-wife duo of Toko Shiiki-Santos and Erik Santos, whose songs are sung mostly in Japanese. **Mar. 19:** **Gas for Less.** See review, p. 66. Local alt-country honky-tonk and rockabilly band led by singer-songwriter (and former Lucky Haskins frontman) Ryan Racine. **Mar. 26:** **The Afternoon Round.** Local Americana rock band.

Live at PJ's

102 S. First St. **752-5740**

This lounge features live music Sun. 5-8 p.m. and occasional Sat., 8-10:30 p.m. DJs Fri. & Sat., 11 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.:** **Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Mar. 6:** **Bobby Streng & Liquid Streets.** Jazz-funk fusion quartet led by saxophonist Streng. **Mar. 20:** **Lucky Brown Band.** Detroit reggae-rock jam band.

Melange Subterranean Bistro

314 S. Main **222-0202**

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music occasional Thurs., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, DJs on Fri. & Sat. Dancing, no cover. **Mar. 4:** **Lucas Paul Band.** Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty

994-5436

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.-Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 11:** **MEDMA Presents Impulse!** The Michigan Electronic Dance Music Association's monthly showcase of progressive house, trance, and electronic dance music TBA. **Mar. 17:** **VNV Nation.** An array of genres from electronic dance music to ballads and classically inspired music by the British/Irish duo of singer-songwriter and electronic musician Ronan Harris and drummer Mark Jackson. Opening act is **SITD**, a German electro-industrial band.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty

662-9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8-10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Mar. 7:** **Billy King.** Country-flavored pop-folk by this local singer-songwriter and guitarist. **Mar. 14:** **Jay Stielstra Trio.** Folk-country originals by this highly regarded veteran local singer-songwriter. He is accompanied by vocalist Judy Banker and dobro player John Sayler. Stielstra has a new CD, *Don't Let me Down Easy*. **Mar. 21:** **Paul's Big Radio.** Rootsy country-pop band led by local singer-songwriter Paul Lippens. **Mar. 28:** **Joe Summers.** Down-home country swing by this versatile local guitar virtuoso. He is accompanied by rhythm guitarist **Alex Belhaj.**

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard

662-8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues., 7:30-9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover by donation, no dancing, 8-10 p.m. **Mar. 2:** **Songwriters Open Mike.** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Mar. 9:** **"Anything Goes Open Stage & Song Circle."** All musicians invited. Hosted by Laura MacKimmie. **Mar. 23:** **"Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Quarter Bistro

300 S. Maple

929-9200

This west-side restaurant features live music Sat. 6:30-9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Also, a DJ on Fri., 6:30-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Mar. 6:** **Kefi.** Band that plays traditional Greek party music. **Mar. 13:** **Brad McNett.** Local jazz quartet led by McNett, a vocalist who specializes in Sinatra covers. **Mar. 20:** **Terry Jacoby.** Acoustic alternative rock singer-songwriter. **Mar. 27:** **Steven Springer.** Blues by this former Trinidad Tripoli Steel Bahd singer-guitarist, winner of several Detroit Music Awards for Best Guitar Player.

Sava's State Street Cafe

216 S. State

623-2233

This campus-area restaurant features live music Thurs., 10 p.m.-1 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 4 & 11:** TBA. **Mar. 18:** **Old Soul Quintet.** Local jazz quintet whose music incorporates elements of contemporary R&B, funk, and hip-hop. With trumpeter Ingrid Racine, saxophonist Dan Bennett, bassist Josef Deas, keyboardist Mike Malis, and drummer Quentin Joseph. Between sets **DJ Charlie Munk** plays "rare groove" dance music from James Brown to the Budos Band. **Mar. 25:** TBA.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan,

Ypsilanti

482-5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Thurs. & Fri. 8 p.m.-midnight, & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.:** **Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by The Martindales, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **Every Fri.:** Live music TBA. **Mar. 6** (6-8 p.m.): **Ann Arbor Music Center Blues Band.** Adult student musicians perform postwar blues covers. 9:30 p.m. show: TBA. **Mar. 13** (6-8 p.m.): **Ann Arbor Music Center Blues Band.** See above. **Mar. 13:** **Pale Dave.** Local folk-rock singer-songwriter. **Mar. 20** (6-8 p.m.): **Ann Arbor Music Center Kids Showcase.** Youth musicians perform pop and rock covers. **Mar. 20:** **The Alligators.** R&B and blues band from Detroit. **Mar. 27:** **Melissa and Mary.** Acoustic pop-folk covers and originals by the local duo of singer-guitarists Melissa Buzzano and Mary Henderson.

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C=Christian
D=Divorced
F=Female
G=Gay
H=Hispanic
H/WP=Height & Weight
ISO=In Search

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Classifieds & Personals

Personals Key

A=Asian	J=Jewish
B=Black	L=Letters
C=Christian	LTR=Long Term Relationship
D=Divorced	M=Male
F=Female	ND=Nondrinker
G=Gay	NS=Non-smoker
H=Hispanic	PC=Phone Calls
H/WP=Height & Weight	P=Professional
Proportionate	S=Single
ISO=In Search Of	W=White

Women Seeking Men

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
\$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

Bright, slim, caring SWPF ISO true gentleman for friendship, maybe more. RSVP soon. 57842

Cute, fit girl teddy bear ISO LTR with boy teddy bear 45+. For dancing to the Blues, cassolet by the fire, more. 57942

Men Seeking Women

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
\$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

SWM, 52, tall, handsome, NS, ND, good values. Loves music, nature, spirituality. Seeks LTR with similar woman in her 40s or 50s. 57962

Divorced and divorcing healthy Caucasian Christian male—6'2", 215 lbs., blue-eyed, blond/gray hair—seeking intelligent, attractive, nonsmoking, feminine SWPF Christian of normal weight, in her 30s, with no children, for LTR. Must be willing to relocate to 49415, want to start a family, be a mother, and keep your day job. No bipolar or narcissistic personalities. Should be financially independent—I don't need your money—and be a PhD, MD, DO, DDS, DC, DVM, NP, RN, LPN, DD, JD, RPH/PharmD, MBA, CPA, or DAR, etc. Interests are: my second-grade son, more children, genealogy, travel, politics, etc. Have two MA's, am a retired U.S. Army lieutenant-colonel and retired Michigan public school teacher. Son has prodigious energy, and we have a big, friendly Irish setter. Working on having more children by way of a surrogate mother. Have frozen sperm, multiple egg donor banks in Michigan. Interested? Money cannot buy happiness; but love, understanding, and tolerance can do wonders. Watch *Sleepless in Seattle*. Am I your Paladin? Respond with photos. I can pass a comprehensive drug test and criminal background. Can you? 57952

Bright, bearded, boyish-Koala bearish SWM professor, 62, likes chats, cats, cuddling, cinema, concerts, cuisine, (Leonard) Cohen, travel, seeks LTR. 57932

DWM, 70 years young, 195 lbs., 5'11", attractive, home-centered. Enjoys music, movies, travel. ISO slender A, H, or WF for LTR. 56892

Friendships

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

Women Seeking Women

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

It's Easy to Respond to a Personals Ad!

To Respond to a Personals Ad by Mail:

Letter responses are forwarded for \$3 per letter. Put each letter in its own envelope with the box number and sufficient first-class postage on the front. Do not put your return address on the individual envelopes, but be sure to include your contact information inside the letter if you wish to receive a reply. Mail all response letters (in a larger envelope) to the Ann Arbor Observer; include a check for \$3 per response made payable to: Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Place Your Personals Ad Today!

• Personals ads are \$7.00 per line.

- Place a personals ad through www.arborlist.com and receive the first four lines for FREE.
- Email: classifieds@arborweb.com or Fax: (734) 769-3375
- Mail or walk-in: 201 Catherine Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Observer Personals Ads are also posted online at:

www.arborlist.com—totally free classifieds, and www.arborweb.com—Ann Arbor online

Please call with any questions or comments: (734) 769-3175

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

Men Seeking Men

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.



Employment

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

NEED A GOOD JOB?

Would you like the ability to earn what you are worth in a business where personal initiative and hustle are rewarded? Does the chance to work with no boss breathing down your neck appeal to you? Wouldn't it be nice to have some flexibility in your schedule, working a little more when extra money is needed, working a little less when the family needs you? You've probably never considered driving a taxicab, have you? But things are different at Ann Arbor Yellow Cab. We're not like the big city taxi companies. We're not even like the other taxi companies in our area. We strive to treat our drivers with respect and handle financial matters professionally, and we have lots of customers who need you. We are in need of additional drivers who can meet our standards. You need to be a drug-free safe driver with a good driving record, clean criminal history, good work record, and you need to be dedicated to outstanding customer service. Day, night, and weekend shifts are available now. Please apply online at www.selectride.com.

Friendships

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

Entertainment

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

I SPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 87? If you can, you could win a \$25 gift certificate to spend with an Ann Arbor Observer advertiser of your choice. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, March 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769-3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put I Spy in the subject line).

Outdoors

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

Firewood, light hauling, tree removal. Call Mark, (734) 657-6829.

Snow Removal: Be safe this winter! Snow blowers. Reliable. Seasonal or vacation. Nontoxic ice melters. Licensed and insured. Clear and clean snow and ice management, (734) 428-1247.

Lawn moving, tree removal. Serving Ypsilanti & Ann Arbor. Call (734) 657-6829.

Pets

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

CRITTER CARE

Pet Care When You Can't Be There
Kristina Taylor
(734) 747-8259

A2DoggyWalker.com
Safe and private dog park trips.
Unleash your inner dog!
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Bwana Briggs Pet Sitting. Your home or mine. www.bwanabrigspetcare.com.

Photography

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

www.beringphotography.com
glenn bering 734.485.5445

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of photography experience.
www.cibelenewman.com
(734) 417-8946

Home

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

Professional Premium Handyman Plus

Is something broken or not working right? Does it bother you? Caring, patient, personalized service. Promoting intelligent, preventative maintenance and repair. Licensed & insured. Degreed engineer. Since 1995, comprehensive technical expertise with over 100,000 repairs/improvements made. **Prompt response.** Emergency calls welcome. Robert@HelpMeCLE.com. Call Rob, (734) 368-0114.

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★ Household Debris—Recycled ★
Appliances, furniture, brush, and misc.
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★ EXPERIENCED PAINTERS ★
Painting in Ann Arbor for over 10 years.
Interior/exterior. Decks. References. Call Brian at (734) 657-8667. Email BLT@umich.edu.

Handyman: Remodeling and Carpentry. State licensed and insured. Call Dave, C: (734) 417-4879, H: (734) 482-5272, or email depotwoulds@sbcglobal.net.

Housecleaning with the professional touch. Great references. (734) 717-2170.

Make room for what fits in your life now. I work with clients to organize their homes or offices to do just that. Andrea Anbender, 645-1209.

Housecleaning

Smart, rotational cleaning tailored to your needs. Very reliable. Thorough, detailed cleaning at a fair price. Make your life a TON easier. Leave the dirty work to the BEST. (734) 231-2050.

Dependable, trustworthy person to do your housecleaning. (734) 461-9569.

NEED INSPIRATION?

I can show you how to improve your yard—and keep it that way. (734) 761-5615 or plantscape_design@yahoo.com.

Wanted to Rent

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

1 and 2 bedrooms
\$99* MOVES YOU IN

5 minutes from EMU. Short term available.
Right on the bus line, on-site laundry
Secured entrances.

Section 8 and pets welcome.
(734) 434-0576 EHO
*call for details
www.cormorantco.com

Real Estate

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

Apartments for Rent

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

1 and 2 bedrooms
\$99* MOVES YOU IN

5 minutes from EMU. Short term available.
Right on the bus line, on-site laundry
Secured entrances.

Section 8 and pets welcome.
(734) 434-0576 EHO
*call for details
www.cormorantco.com

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 10.

Retired couple seeks summer sublet for July and August. Call (734) 709-8757 or downeyeike@aol.com.

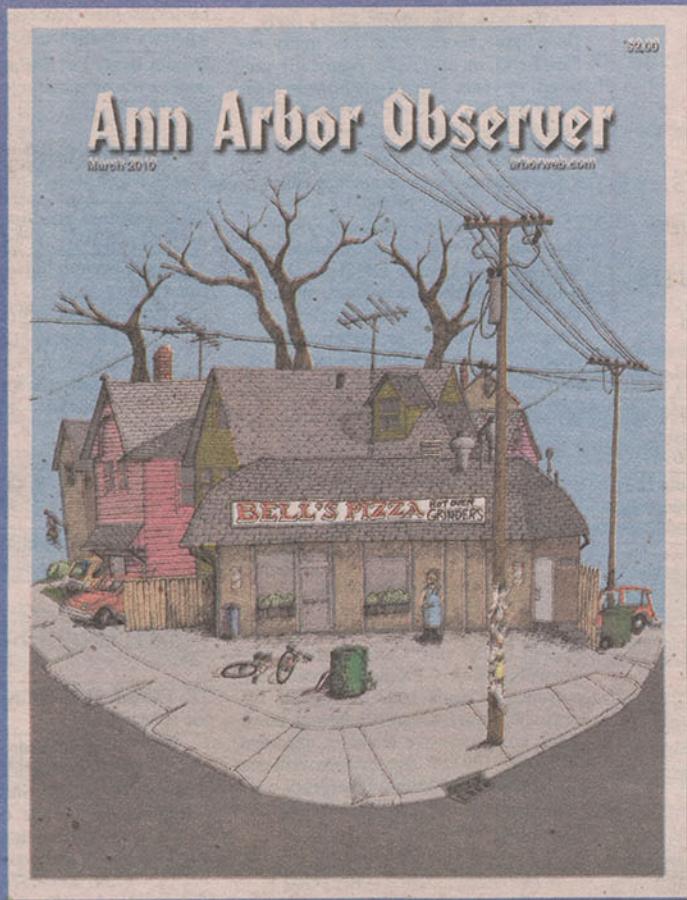


Observer Readers and Friends:

Please help keep the Observer healthy and strong.

- Read the Observer and patronize the local companies that advertise with us.
- Become a “voluntary paid” subscriber. Your payment of just \$20 a year will help us to maintain high-quality local journalism. If you would like to make a larger contribution, we will happily accept it.

To show our appreciation, we will enroll you as a “Friend of the Observer”—and include at no additional charge our quarterly Community Observer, providing features, profiles, business updates, and events in Chelsea, Dexter, and Saline.



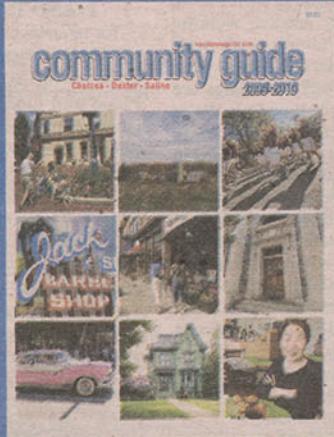
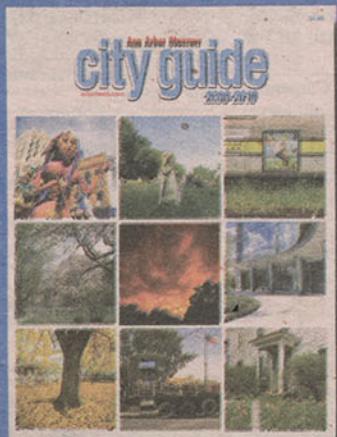
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Call us at 769-3175 to provide credit card information. Office hours are Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Join online at our website, www.arborweb.com. Click “Subscribe,” then “Friend of the Observer.”

Thank You!



Real Estate

Residential and Commercial Properties
in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties



Ideal Burns Park location is just two short blocks to the Park and Elementary School! Walk to the University of Michigan Central Campus or bike to the Medical Center and leave your car behind. This 2 ½ story with over 2,000 square feet has 4 bedrooms plus a study, family room with southern exposure and 3 full baths. Fresh paint, refinished hardwood floors, new windows and new Hardiplank siding are among the recent improvements. Perfect for buyers who want a low-maintenance exterior and yard, with lots of room inside for family, guests, home office and hobbies!

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NE ANN ARBOR - Incredible 32 acre estate property just minutes to Ann Arbor, U-M, and hospitals. This property is breathtaking. This custom-built home rests in the heart of mature forest. Enjoy complete privacy and harmony with nature with the convenience of a premier location. The 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home features soaring ceilings, walls of glass, and extensive upgrades. \$1,495,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NW ANN ARBOR - This gorgeous, custom-built home by Henry Landau rests on a 8+ acre country estate. Grounds include extensive landscaping, circle drive, and outbuilding. Home is rock solid with an all-brick exterior. Interior features include two-story living room, striking dining room with barrel ceiling, custom kitchen, dream master suite and finished walkout basement. \$1,295,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP - Serenity surrounds you at this stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath, 2 ½-bath custom-built home on 7.5 gorgeous acres. The property is very special featuring a flowing stream, forest, extensive landscaping, decks, and patio. The home features only the finest throughout including two-story foyer with sweeping stair, gourmet kitchen, two-story great room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout lower level. \$1,195,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - This is one of the premier residences on the market today. Custom-built for the 2004 Showcase of Homes this home has all the features and amenities you've hoped for. Incredible lot with pool, hot tub, and large patio. The interior is spectacular including great room with 12' ceilings, gourmet kitchen with Viking appliances, den, luxury master suite, bonus room, and finished lower level with rec room, bar and theater. \$899,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



EARHART - Stunning 4-bedroom, 2½-bath contemporary on a totally wooded ½ acre lot in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. This timeless architect designed home has undergone an extensive renovation and is just stunning. Wall to ceiling glass in most rooms, custom kitchen, master suite with attached study, and finished walkout lower level. \$549,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Absolutely gorgeous 4-bedroom, 4 ½-bath, custom-built builder's model home in Huntington Woods. This home is loaded with quality upgrades throughout. Features include two-story foyer and family room, cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, open family room, great formal spaces, den, luxury master suite, and finished basement with great rec space. \$479,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



CENTENNIAL PARK - Fabulous 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home in one of Saline's most popular neighborhoods. This home has all the features and amenities you've been hoping for. Features include cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, open family room, den, open kitchen with granite counters, family room with vaulted ceiling, luxury master suite with sitting room, and huge closet. \$469,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SALINE ESTATES - This like-new 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath custom-built home rests on a peaceful .85 acre lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. Great yard with extensive landscaping and a large deck. The interior features two-story foyer, large formal living room and dining room, den, open kitchen with granite counters, family room with vaulted ceiling, luxury master suite with sitting room, and huge closet. \$469,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



WATERWAYS - Incredible 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath colonial on a quiet, wooded cul-de-sac deep within the neighborhood. Wonderful setting with large backyard, large deck, and professional landscaping. The interior of this home has been completely redone. Features include remodeled kitchen with granite counter tops, extensive hardwood floor, luxury master suite, and beautifully finished lower level. Saline Schools. \$394,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



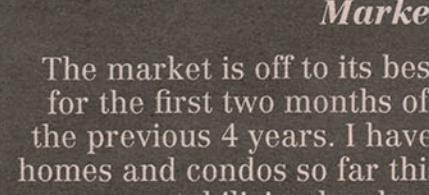
NEW LISTING - FOXFIRE - Wonderfully maintained and upgraded 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath Colonial in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. Great lot on a quiet cul-de-sac features large deck and walkout basement. Interior is sharp and includes open kitchen, large family room, formal living room and dining room, first-floor den, nice master suite with vaulted ceiling, and finished walkout basement!! \$329,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



MANCHESTER - Are you looking for your own private hideaway just 15 minutes from Ann Arbor? This is it! Gorgeous 5-acre wooded parcel with many old growth oak trees. Home features great room with vaulted ceiling and wood stove, open kitchen, 2 first-floor bedrooms, master suite upstairs with large loft, and partially finished basement with view out windows. \$259,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



CHELSEA - Charming early century 3-bedroom, 1-bath farmhouse on 2.5 peaceful acres on the east side of Chelsea. Quick access to I-94. Property is gorgeous and has the potential for horses. Home is loaded with old world charm with wood floors, oversized molding, large living room with fireplace, and family room with wood stove. \$199,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



The market is off to its best start in years. Sales activity for the first two months of the year far outpaces any of the previous 4 years. I have sold over \$5 million worth of homes and condos so far this year! The improving national economy, stabilizing local employment, and historically low interest rates are creating a thriving real estate market.

If you are considering buying or selling my experience, results, and professional approach speak for themselves:

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#1 Seller of homes in Pittsfield Township
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SELLERS - My listings continue to receive the maximum exposure possible both in print advertising and on the internet. Please look and compare. While all other brokers are cutting back, I am not. My marketing program works, see the sold banners.

BUYERS - My buyers, personally represented by me, have been successful in finding some of the BEST homes and the BEST prices in our market. The issues of financing, short sales, and bank owned homes are more complicated than ever. It makes sense to be represented by a proven professional.

Call or email today for a no-obligation private consultation. 734-476-7100 or Matt@ISellAnnArbor.com



WARNER CREEK - This 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods is one of the best buys on the market today. Sharp home features living room and family room both with fireplaces, kitchen with eat-in area, formal dining room, nice master suite, and good sized kids bedrooms. \$189,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



GRASS LAKE - This 4-bedroom, 3½-bath former builder's model home in Sandhill Estates is loaded with quality upgrades. Great design featuring two-story foyer, open great room, large kitchen with island, first-floor master suite with sitting area, and three-car garage. \$249,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Rare find. Country ranch on a peaceful acre lot on the north side of Saline, just minutes to I-94. Solid brick ranch in need of some cosmetic updates. Great starter home includes large backyard, 2 car garage, living room, den, and full basement. \$149,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

Matt Dejanovich has been a Realtor serving the Ann Arbor area for 22 years and has been a resident of the community his entire life. In that time he has become one of the area's top producing agents with over \$500 Million in Career Sales Volume. His track record of results ranks him in the top 1% of all Real Estate Agents nationwide. Matt prides himself on providing personal, direct service to each and every one of his clients. **No assistants! Not one. When you hire Matt, you get Matt.**

www.IsellAnnArbor.com • Matt@IsellAnnArbor.com



DIXBORO FARMS – Stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath new construction on a gorgeous 2-acre estate lot in this popular NE Ann Arbor neighborhood. Quality features everywhere including all brick exterior, cherry kitchen with granite counters, extensive custom molding and trim, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$849,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – GLENNBOROUGH – Very sharp 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath custom-built home by Russell. This home rests on one of the most gorgeous settings you will find. Backs to trees and wildlife. The interior is special featuring great room with vaulted ceiling, large custom kitchen with Corian, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$679,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



CLEAR LAKE – Gorgeous view 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath completely renovated lakefront home just west of Chelsea. Just minutes to I-94. Features great room with wall of windows to the lake, extensive hardwood floors, unique study loft, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$649,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE – Gorgeous custom-built home overlooking the 7th fairway at Stonebridge. Very current home loaded with quality upgrades inside and out. Great lot with extensive landscaping, large patio, and expansive views. Interior features extremely open floor plan with vaulted ceilings in most rooms, two-story great room, gourmet kitchen with granite, luxury first-floor master suite, and unique bonus room. \$569,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



JACKSON – incredible 4-bedroom, 4-bath custom-built home in the Sanctuary at Brills Lake, one of Jackson's most desired subs. This 2004 Parade of Homes entry is loaded with custom features and amenities including 2-story family room with wall of windows, kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, den, luxury master suite, and gorgeous wooded lot. \$469,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



PINCKNEY – Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built home with 90 ft. of frontage on Highland Lake. This home is just paradise with panoramic views of lake and 11,000 acres of state owned land. The interior is loaded featuring oversized great room, maple kitchen with granite, and dream master suite. \$449,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of the area's most desired subs. Incredible lot borders trees and a stream with oversized patio and extensive landscaping. Gorgeous interior features large great room with vaulted ceiling, gourmet kitchen, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished basement. \$439,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BARTON HILLS AREA – New construction just minutes from downtown Ann Arbor and U of M. This 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home on a peaceful 1.5 acre parcel features wonderful oversized rooms, ample hardwood floors, custom kitchen with professional grade appliances, luxury master suite. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YORK PLACE – Stunning 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath, two-story on a spacious acre lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. Great lot featuring extensive landscaping, oversized patio, and large backyard. Interior features include two-story foyer and family room, open kitchen with cherry cabinets, den, luxury master suite, and finished basement with great multi-use rec space. \$359,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LAKWOOD – This classic 1920s Tudor has been restored back to its original grandeur. The setting features extensive landscaping, oversized deck, and great backyard. Interior features all hardwood floors, living room fireplace, sunroom, formal dining, new kitchen with granite, nice master suite, and finished basement. \$349,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



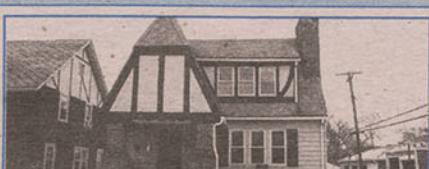
LOCH ALPINE – Quality built 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home with panoramic views of Ann Arbor Country Club golf course. Wonderful hill top setting gives some of the best views you'll see. Interior features great room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, luxury master suite, and finished basement. \$339,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – EBERWHITE – Charming 3-bedroom, 2-bath home with significant renovations walking distance to downtown Ann Arbor. This home has a fabulous interior including master suite with spa-like bath and huge walk-in closet. Other features include spacious living room and dining room with hardwood floor, flex-use bedroom/den, and finished basement. \$329,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LINCOLN SCHOOLS – Enjoy your own 40-acre private get-away in this modest 3-bedroom, 1-bath home. The land is spectacular and features open meadows and dense woods. Potential for land split also exists. Perfect home for an outdoor enthusiast. Home is older and has lots of charm. \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



UM CAMPUS/KERRYTOWN – Great rental property walking distance to UM campus, UM hospital, Kerrytown, and downtown Ann Arbor. Strong rental history and great condition highlight this easy income property. Property has two 1-bedroom apartments. \$279,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



UM CAMPUS/KERRYTOWN – Great rental property walking distance to UM campus, UM hospital, Kerrytown, and downtown Ann Arbor. Strong rental history and great condition highlight this easy income property. Property has a 2-bedroom and a 1-bedroom apartment. \$269,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 3-bath home rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will find anywhere. Incredible backyard view with fully developed pond including large deck, extensive patios, and gorgeous landscaping. The interior is sharp including great room with vaulted ceiling and two-story fireplace, spacious kitchen with Corian counters, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$269,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – SALINE – Walk to downtown Saline. Charming 3-bedroom, 2-bath turn-of-the-century home. Incredible curb appeal featuring two large porches, rock the summer away like the days of old. Interior features remodeled kitchen, traditional living room and parlor, nice sized bedrooms, and a separate wing that could be home office or apartment. \$229,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



U-M CAMPUS – Perfect student rental within close walking distance to the Athletic Campus and Central Campus. Six-bedroom single family home perfect for a group of students to share. This home has a great rental history and represents a great opportunity to own income property. \$225,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP – Your own country oasis awaits you at this move-in condition 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home. Enjoy the gorgeous park-like setting just minutes from everything. This home is perfect and features living room with vaulted ceiling, family room with fireplace, and nice master suite. Gorgeous!! \$199,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – NORTHFIELD TWP – Live in a park just 10 minutes to downtown Ann Arbor and 5 minutes to new UM North Campus complex. This 4-bedroom, 2-bath two-story rests on one of the most beautiful 2-acre parcels you will find and features extensive landscaping, multiple decks and patios, and quiet country living. Interior features remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors, great fireplace, den, and nice sized bedrooms. \$199,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – HAMBURG TWP – Sharp 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch style home on an oversized .62 acre lot with access to Ore Lake. Great yard features mature trees, nice view, and fenced backyard. The interior is move-in ready with large country kitchen with fireplace, formal living and dining rooms, and family room. Great home. \$139,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – Immaculate 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo in Park Place. Enjoy this peaceful condo complex just a short walk to downtown Saline. This unit is in perfect, move-in condition and features great room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen, flex-use first-floor bedroom, second-floor master bedroom loft, 1 1/2-car attached garage, and full basement. Great unit. \$139,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – Great 2-bedroom, 1 1/2-bath condo in perfect move-in condition. This unit has a great set of features and amenities. The highlights include cherry kitchen, spacious living room, spacious master suite with walk-in closet, and full basement. \$125,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTINGS – YPSILANTI – Very sharp 3-bedroom, 2-bath brick ranch in Gault Farms, one of Ypsilanti's best neighborhoods. This rock solid home is in move-in condition. Backyard is very nice with 2-car garage and covered patio area. Interior features hardwood floors, nice sized bedrooms, and partially finished basement. \$99,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

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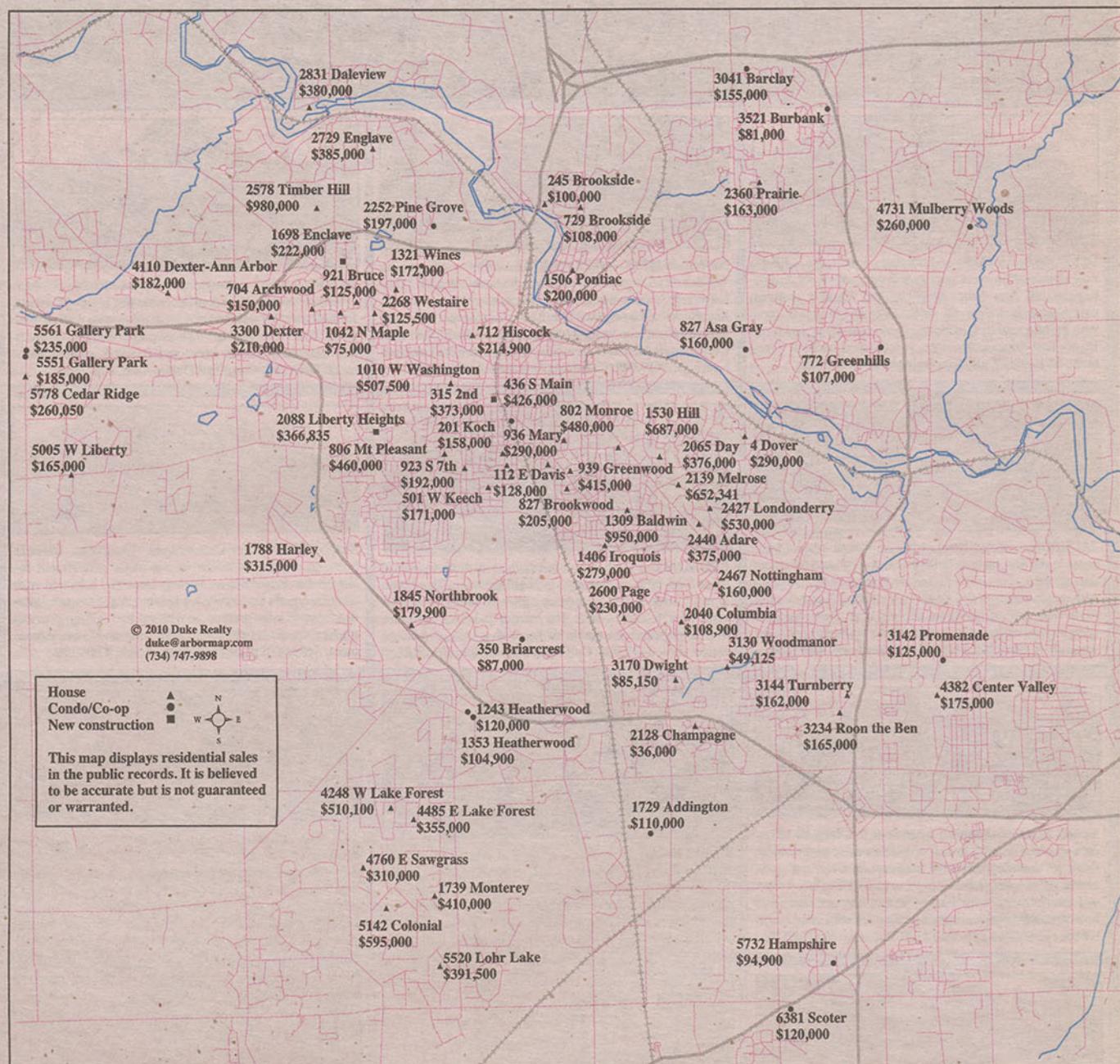
To learn a bit more about who we are, check us out on YouTube. Search for "Ren and Susan's home" to see our segment on HGTV!

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JANUARY 2010

HOME SALES



2009 was a cold year for condos. After a modest 2 percent decline between 2007 and 2008, the median price of condos sold in the Ann Arbor school district plunged 20 percent last year, from \$162,000 to \$129,000. The accompanying table, based on public records, breaks down sales of existing condos by price. The biggest increase came in the under \$100,000 range: the most affordable condos jumped from twenty-nine sales in 2008 to seventy-eight in 2009. Foreclosures accounted for thirty-five of those bargains, and another twenty-nine in the \$100,000-\$150,000

range, the other category that saw a sales increase.

We counted 381 sales in 2009 compared to the 382 sales in 2008 and 381 in 2007. But the appearance of steady volume is misleading. Sales would have fallen more than 5 percent if it were not for the conversion of Geddes Lake from a co-op to condos. The complex on Huron Parkway added twenty-one sales to last year's total.

The median condo price has fallen 30 percent since the market peaked in 2005, from \$183,000 to \$129,000. In tandem with the weakness in prices, the combined value of sales slipped from \$108 million in

sales in 2005 to \$56 million in 2009.

Some condos felt more of the chill than others. The second table tracks sales within individual condominium neighborhoods. We compared the average (mean) prices of comparably sized units sold in 2005 with 2009. Complexes are ranked according to their representatives' percentage loss. The numbers of 2009 sales for each sample are also noted.

Two sales on this month's map highlight who's hot and who's not. At one extreme, a Chapel Hill condo off Green Road at 3521 Burbank sold for just \$55 per square foot of living space. At the other extreme, a Liberty Lofts condo at 315 Second Street sold for \$310 per square foot. Collectively, the condos sold

in the Ann Arbor school district last year averaged a lukewarm \$108 per square foot, based on our analysis of the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors' sales reports.

—Kevin Duke

CONDO / CO-OP	SQ. FT.	2005	2009	#	LOSS \$	LOSS %
Geddes Lake Co-op 2B	1,280	\$106,000	\$105,000	10	-\$1,000	-1%
Alpine 2Bedroom	1,280	\$175,000	\$142,000	2	-\$33,000	-19%
Oakbrook 2B	1,470	\$260,000	\$208,000	2	-\$52,000	-20%
Brentwood Square 2B	1,563	\$212,000	\$163,000	3	-\$49,000	-23%
Northside Commons 2B	1,094	\$167,000	\$128,000	4	-\$39,000	-23%
Barclay Park 3B	2,008	\$273,000	\$204,000	5	-\$69,000	-25%
Crossings 1&2B	800	\$145,000	\$107,000	4	-\$38,000	-26%
Village Co-op 1B	1,080	\$80,000	\$58,000	12	-\$22,000	-28%
Tower Plaza 1B	600	\$217,000	\$151,000	4	-\$66,000	-30%
Liberty Pointe 2B	1,378	\$194,000	\$131,000	3	-\$63,000	-32%
Walden Hills 2B	1,173	\$129,000	\$85,000	4	-\$44,000	-34%
Berkshire Creek 2B	1,704	\$271,000	\$177,000	2	-\$94,000	-35%
Turnberry Village 2B	1,123	\$163,000	\$98,000	3	-\$65,000	-40%
Georgetown C'mons 2B	882	\$137,000	\$82,000	4	-\$55,000	-40%
Weatherstone 2B	1,125	\$155,500	\$93,000	3	-\$62,500	-40%
Chapel Hill 2B	1,280	\$171,000	\$102,000	8	-\$69,000	-40%
Briarcrest 2B	983	\$139,000	\$74,000	8	-\$65,000	-47%

PRICE RANGE	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Less than \$100K	9	8	18	29	78
\$100K-\$149,999	95	105	123	132	155
\$150K-\$199,999	231	206	125	110	84
\$200K-\$249,999	97	91	64	45	36
\$250K-\$299,999	42	33	26	22	11
\$300K-\$349,999	20	23	9	12	4
\$350K-\$399,999	13	10	8	8	5
\$400K-\$499,999	9	11	4	12	7
More than \$500K	10	5	4	12	1
Condos Sold	526	492	381	382	381
Median Price	\$183K	\$180K	\$165K	\$162K	\$129K
Sales (\$Millions)	\$108M	\$98M	\$70M	\$74M	\$56M

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
David Kersch, 734 214-3796
Stephen Anderson, 734 214-5897
Charlie Chapell, 734 214-2728
Ramona Meadows, 734 944-3981
Denise McPherson-Pratt, 734 214-3733
Betsy Cavanaugh, 734 214-3740



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Günther Gardens Warm, cozy, no details overlooked. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath custom home on 2.8 wooded acres. You won't want to leave the sunroom! \$509,000. #3000826



Travis Pointe Golf Course Best location in Travis! Custom finishes throughout. 5 bedroom, 5.5 bath, finished walkout with guest suite. Mahogany wine cellar & more! \$850,000. #2902500



Travis Pointe Golf Course Striking condo, beautifully updated throughout. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, great views and maintenance free. Inviting, cozy deck. \$495,000. #2908216



Travis Pointe Golf Course Move into this meticulously maintained 4 bedroom custom home situated on 1 acre rolling lot overlooking the 12th green. \$579,000. #3000364



York Woods Sub New geo-thermal system. Showcase ranch on Sunset Lake. Finished walkout. Custom details throughout. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. \$890,000. #3000822



Whitmore Lake Private peninsula with 247 ft. of waterfront. Brick ranch, updates, great room with fireplace, cherry kitchen, 675 sq. ft. deck with awning. \$499,000. #2908486



Travis Pointe Golf Course Perfect home for family and entertaining. Relax with a good book in any room, all with fabulous golf course or pond views. \$750,000. #2910509



Lodi Township Southern traditional all-brick home on beautiful 4.27 acres. 5 bedrooms, 3 full, 2 half baths, wood floors, new carpet, finished lower level. \$895,000. #2902432

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The Zingerman's Times

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March 2010

Printed in Ann Arbor

Land of a thousand flavors

New Study Reveals: Businesses that Practice Open Book Finance Have Better Bottom Line Results!

According to The Denison Report, the pioneering study by former UM professor Daniel Denison that measures the links between organizational culture and bottom line results, companies that practice Open Book Finance consistently deliver better results and rank among the top 10 percent in the study, even during difficult economic times.

Times researchers have discovered that anyone can master the basics of Open Book Finance at ZingTrain's two-day Fun, Flavorful Finance seminar.

For more information, including a schedule of upcoming sessions and how to register, visit www.zingtrain.com or call 734.930.1919.

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Zingerman's deli celebrates 28 years!

ANN ARBOR, MI -Times historians report Zingerman's Delicatessen opened on March 15, 1982 by Paul Saginaw and Ari Weinzweig in a historic building near the Ann Arbor Farmers' Market and got started with a small selection of specialty foods, a host of traditional Jewish dishes and a relatively short sandwich menu.

Today, sources confirm, Zingerman's Delicatessen is considered by many to be an Ann Arbor institution, the source of great food and great experiences for thousands of visitors every year.

"Zingerman's is the North Star of good taste," says Danny Meyer, the award-winning CEO of Union Square Hospitality Group and proprietor of some of New York City's best known eating establishments.

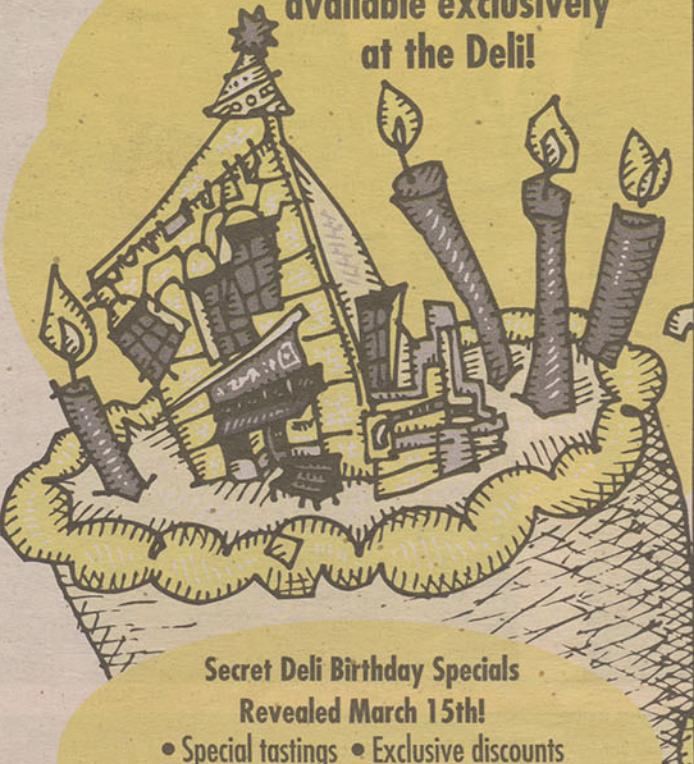
"They put the A in Ann Arbor; the M in Go Blue, and the L in chopped liver," he added. "At 28 years young, the Zingerman's name is fresher than ever!"

Zingerman's Deli has also become what Mario Batali calls a "national treasure" and "the center of my gastrodeli universe!"

Insiders tell the Times that the Deli serves up thousands of made-to-order sandwiches with ingredients like premium Black Angus corned beef and pastrami, free-range chicken and turkey, housemade chopped liver and chicken salad. The Deli also stocks an exceptional array of farmhouse cheeses, estate-bottled olive oils, varietal vinegars, smoked fish, salami, coffee, tea and much, much more.

"We want to say 'thank you' to the community for the past 28 incredible years," Zingerman's co-founder Ari Weinzweig says. "They've been tasty, lively, full of joy and generosity. We're looking forward to many more!"

Celebrate with specials
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Check out www.zingermansdeli.com
for details.

Traditional Passover Foods From Zingerman's Make Feasting Easy!

A recent study conducted by the Times holiday bureau found area families are letting Zingerman's do the work this Passover with tasty treats that encourage families to relax with loved ones this holiday.

Reports suggest the Zingerman's Deli Passover menu of traditional Jewish foods is a favorite of Times readers. The menu includes a complete Seder meal for four featuring roast beef brisket. Visit www.zingermansdeli.com for the Deli's full Passover menu.

Sources also confirm that Zingerman's Roadhouse is a popular destination for Times readers this holiday. For a limited time, the Roadhouse will offer an array of Passover dishes for starters, entrees and dessert. Zingerman's Bakehouse is making macaroons, a traditional, gluten-free Passover sweet with real vanilla bean or dark chocolate, along with a chocolate-orange Passover torte, sold exclusively at Zingerman's Bakehouse, Delicatessen and www.zingermans.com. Because these treats are available only for a limited time, Times readers are urged to visit these locations soon!

Candy lovers say "Wowza" for Chocolate Raspberry Bars!

Because cacao-loving Times readers can't get enough, Zingerman's Candy Manufactory recently unveiled its fourth Zzang! candy bar, the Wowza, a combination of raspberry nougat, raspberry jellies and raspberry ganache wrapped in dark chocolate.

"They remind me of the 1930s bars that were hand made, slab style," says Beth Kimmerle, author of *The History of Candy*, about the Zzang! bars which are made in small batches by Zingerman's Candy Manufactory co-owner and chocolate maker, Charlie Frank.

Stop by any Zingerman's location and ask for a taste!

Ship them coast to coast at www.zingermans.com



Ann Arbor's Southside is "Perking" Up!

Coffee lovers in the know on Ann Arbor's southside are heading over to Plaza Drive, just three doors down from Zingerman's Bakehouse and Creamery, for a cup of their favorite joe at the new Zingerman's Coffee Company location!

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Marketplace Changes

by Tony McReynolds & Sally Mitani

Fusion on Thayer

French meets Burmese at Mercy's.

When Mercy Kasle was attending Cal State in the early seventies and needed a job, she answered an ad placed by a woman looking for someone to cook and do light housekeeping. During the interview, she recalls, the woman "asked me if I knew how to cook, and I said no—but I know how to read." She got the job and immediately immersed herself in studying recipes and learning all she could about food. Now, four decades later, she's the guiding spirit of a new restaurant that bears her name.

Mercy, fifty-nine, and her husband Steve Kasle, sixty, opened **Mercy's** in the former Earle Uptown space in the Bell Tower Hotel in late January. And both maintain that you won't find its unusual fusion of French and Asian cuisine anywhere else in the area, mostly because of Mercy's emphasis on Burmese recipes. Born in Burma, Mercy immigrated to the United States in 1966, and many of the dishes are based on her mother's recipes. Burmese cuisine borrows elements from Thailand and India, resulting in a unique fusion of spices and curries and in dishes that tend to be tart rather than sweet.

Entrées, priced at \$15 to \$34, include ginger salmon wrapped in Swiss chard, French bistro lamb shanks, and *ohn-no-kauk-swe*, Burmese chicken-coconut soup. Starters run \$5 to \$15 and include duck confit egg rolls, ginger chili-glazed beef on rosemary skewers, and scallop crepes St. Jacques. Because Mercy's is right across the street from Hill Auditorium, it also offers a special before-the-show menu featuring dishes that can be made quickly for people who want to get to a concert on time.

The Kasles met at Cal State in 1972, but they didn't get into the restaurant business until 2000. After earning a bachelor's degree in English, Steve spent several decades helping run the family business, Kasle Steel, in Detroit. Mercy, who got her degree in music, taught school and raised their two daughters. Steve retired in the mid-nineties and taught school himself. Meanwhile, Mercy was running a catering company she co-owned.

To learn the business side of running a restaurant, she got a job as a hostess and assistant manager at



Steve and Mercy Kasle drew on Mercy's heritage to create a menu that ranges from French bistro lamb shanks to Burmese chicken-coconut soup.

Miki. She convinced Steve to quit teaching and come work alongside her a few months later. When they were ready to open a restaurant of their own in 2001, Kerrytown Bistro owner Ron Cresswell approached them about buying his place. They agreed and operated it until the lease ran out in 2003. They've been looking for another place ever since, traveling and spending time with their two grandkids until the perfect opportunity presented itself. When the Earle Uptown closed last summer, they knew they'd found it.

"Our focus is going to be the town," Steve says. In terms of affordability, "we are trying to be on the low end of fine dining. We want [Mercy's] to be a very special place that everyone will want to come to."

Mercy's, 300 S. Thayer (Bell Tower Hotel). 996-3729. Tues.-Thurs. 4-10 p.m., Fri. 4-11 p.m., Sat. 5-11 p.m., Sun. 5-10 p.m.



Frustrated builder Joe Grammatico (and Bella) at his consignment furniture store in Scio Town Center.

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Marketplace Changes

also selling some new arts and crafts, such as handmade dolls by Sandy Crews. Now that he's populated the main showroom, he's turning his attention to the backroom. "This will be the man cave," he grins. "Tools, hunting, fishing gear, sports equipment."

Westside Furniture Consignment Emporium, 283 S. Zeeb, suite C (Scio Town Center). 929-4500. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m.

Sisters says she had to do opening: their com have mo My best- Privo, an Sole S Mon.-Th 11 a.m.-

old store. These days, she says, running is less competitive: "a lot more women, a lot more running groups." In fact, she worries that it's been made to look like too much fun: "We need to try to make people more fit to do these events. It's much more of a slow process than people realize." Matt agrees: "Running is like the martial arts. You don't just show up and get your black belt." They regularly host running clinics at the Traver Village store featuring physical therapist Pete Kittó and orthopedic surgeon John Anderson, both runners.

Sometimes the Holappas sound more like community organizers than store owners. A conversation with them never seems to get around to their retail offerings. (For the record, they sell shoes from \$85 to \$140, with a lot of attention devoted to fit, and gear that they describe as having proven technical merits rather than just a cool look.) Instead, it turns to events, clubs, people, philosophies, methods, and books. The Holappas like to refer beginning runners—especially the overweight or those who have never exercised—to local celebrity (and Matt's good friend) Pete Thomas, one of the original contestants on NBC's *Biggest Loser*. "He was at fifty percent body fat and now he's at six," says Matt. "He's one of the fittest human beings I know. He has dedicated his life to getting people fit."

Tortoise and Hare, 2631 Plymouth Rd. (Traver Village). 623-9640. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m.

Health and Fitness Center at Washenaw Community College, 4833 East Huron River Dr. 477-8745. Mon., Wed., Fri. 8 a.m.-noon (plus 1st & 3rd Wed. 4-8 p.m.), Tues. & Thurs. 8 a.m.-noon & 2-7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Sun. www.tortoiseandhare.com

Brie

When in 2005 evasion legedly La Shish he'd found La Shish him and angry, a fiercelized they a restaura pes from January, forty-four nean C North M

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Shee Main. 5 10 p.m., sheesho

No salads," cally—i trients b

Shoe Trade

Tortoise and Hare leaves Liberty, and Sole Sisters moves in.

For twenty-five years Ann Arbor had two running stores within a block of each other downtown. Running Fit, which traces its origins to 1984, now has a half dozen other locations, including a megastore that opened last year on Jackson Road. *Tortoise and Hare*, born on Liberty in 1978, opened a second, larger store in Traver Village twelve years ago and a small shop in the Health and Fitness Center at WCC two years ago. At the end of January it closed its original store.

"We didn't want to stay too long at the fair," says co-owner Karen Holappa. Now in her seventies, with gray hair pulled back in a bun, she is an éminence grise in Ann Arbor's running community and still runs marathons. Her son Matt, a teenager when his mom bought the business and now an impossibly young-looking forty-two, has long been a partner in the business.

Ann Arbor got into running in a big way in the 1970s when Elmo Morales—"the godfather of Ann Arbor running," as Matt calls him—founded the Ann Arbor Track Club. "I remember when he wanted to print that T-shirt that said 'Get the Masses Off Their Asses,'" Karen smiles. The AATC led to the Dexter-Ann Arbor Run. Bruce Dyer, a track coach at Greenhills, started the Tortoise and Hare on Liberty, and Charlie Blanchard, another runner, opened a store around the block on Washington called Total Runner.

"I began running in '78, just trying to run a mile," says Karen. By the early 1980s she was training for marathons, and Blanchard, who "knew me because of the running community, asked me if I wanted to work at Total Runner part time. Then he wanted me to buy it, but I didn't want to go into competition with Tortoise and Hare. Bruce was a family friend. He'd been Matt's track coach."

Holappa bought Tortoise and Hare from Dyer in 1985. Randy Step bought Total Runner the same year and changed the name to Running Fit; eventually it, too, moved to Liberty.

Holappa confesses that a lot of memories of Ann Arbor running history have been shaken loose in the last few months as she's moved her personal library of running books and vintage posters out of the

0170

While the Tortoise and Hare inventory was taking bounding strides out to Plymouth Road, *Sole Sisters'* inventory of girl shoes was taking smaller steps just around the corner into the old Tortoise and Hare space. *Sole Sisters* is a loose confederation of Detroit area shoe stores. The Ann Arbor outpost is owned by Tamar Fowler, and her idea when she came to town in the summer of 2008 was to bring a younger, hipper, more urban vibe to town.

Fowler says she'll open on Liberty "probably around the end of February, as soon as I do some painting and remodeling." A nervous neophyte when she opened *Sole Sisters* on South Fourth, Fowler is now such a self-assured retailer that in early February she hadn't even signed the lease for the Tortoise and Hare space yet. "Oh, we're still working out a few details," she says carelessly. The new store will be slightly larger—1,100 square feet compared to 800. "We'll be able to have a little more women's apparel—more scarves, hats, gloves—but no big changes. And we're keeping our yellow, black, and white color scheme."

Sole Sisters sells stylish but price-conscious women's shoes—no Manolo Blahniks or Jimmy Choos here. Fowler, who pays a licensing fee to use the *Sole*

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Sisters name but is an independent owner, says she does all her own buying. She's had to do a little course correction since opening: "We had to make a few adjustments. Ann Arbor women definitely like their comfort shoes," she laughs. "We now have more flats, but we still carry heels. My best-selling brands are probably Børn, Privo, and Nicole."

Sole Sisters, 209 E. Liberty. 369-4697. Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Closed Sun.

Briefly noted

When Talal Chahine fled to Lebanon in 2005 to avoid charges of federal tax evasion and in 2006 was indicted for allegedly funneling money to terrorists, the La Shish Middle Eastern restaurant chain he'd founded went belly-up. And longtime La Shish restaurant managers Mike Ibrahim and Abe Tarini were left flat-footed, angry, and unemployed. But La Shish had a fiercely loyal following, and they realized they could tap that loyalty by opening a restaurant that used the menu and recipes from La Shish. And so, at the end of January, Ibrahim, thirty-nine, and Tarini, forty-four, opened **Sheesh Mediterranean Cuisine**, supplanting Pita Bite, on North Main.

They left much of the interior intact, but La Shish-ed it up with plush tapestries, new artwork, and a brick oven they use to bake La Shish's original-recipe bread. Customers can order individual entrees like kibbe nayee, finely ground raw lamb mixed with cracked wheat and natural herbs and spices and topped with extra virgin olive oil, or combination plates like the mixed maza, which includes hummus, baba ghanoush, tabouli, fattoush, and falafel. Prices start at \$3 for soups and appetizers and top out around \$20 for entrees.

"We have the same recipes, same concept, same everything," Ibrahim says. They've already proven it's a winning formula—this is their third location, and Ibrahim says there'll be more. They eventually hope to bring in all the former La Shish managers as partners, managing their own Sheesh locations. And they're hiring back all the former La Shish employees they can track down, from waitresses to cooks. Says Ibrahim, "We want to put all these people back to work in the same environment."

Sheesh Mediterranean Cuisine, 207 N. Main. 585-5196. Sun.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-11 p.m. www.sheeshonline.com

"No way am I going to eat four spinach salads," Maureen Policella says emphatically—not when she can get the same nutrients by drinking a glass of freshly blend-

ed spinach juice. "Depending on what you juice," she says, "one glass can give you all the nutrients you need in a day."

Policella started juicing nine years ago, when she was forty-two and had just had her second child. "I was harried, and it was quick," she recalls. She became a juicing convert when she discovered that in addition to quick, juicing was healthy and convenient. When her friends started asking for her juicing recipes, she decided to open her own juice bar. She and her husband, Michael Policella, took over the **Beyond Juice** location on East Liberty in early January. Original owners Bob and Sally Goldman, who opened the store in 2008, closed it in late 2009 because they were tired of the commute from their home in Birmingham.

"Beyond Juice is a license, not a franchise," Michael Policella says. "We have quite a bit of leeway to change the menus to suit our local conditions." The Policellas are discontinuing the Goldmans' made-to-order sandwiches to put a lot more emphasis on juicing, particularly on combining ingredients. You can still get Beyond Juice's signature "meal in a cup"—a low-fat, low-calorie, twenty-ounce blend of nineteen different vitamins, minerals, and amino acids combined with fruit, honey, and, occasionally, vanilla—but most customers just order a single fruit or vegetable juiced. The Policellas want to promote

more blends, like carrots and celery, or apple and cucumber, because when you juice them together, Michael says, "you get very concentrated nutrients. And we have our own recipes, rather than people having to come in and figure out what to combine or what goes together." Those recipes include

the Razzle Dazzle, a juiced blend of beets, kale, ginger, garlic, and apple; and the Whoo Haa, a blend of apple, lemon, kale, parsley, garlic, beet, dandelion, and carrot. Both cost just under \$6.

Michael's personal favorite is juiced wheatgrass, and he does a shot a day. "One ounce of juiced wheatgrass," he says, "equals two and a half pounds of green, leafy vegetables."

Beyond Juice, 529 E. Liberty. 994-1111. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. www.beyondjuice.com

Reopening **Maple In-n-Out** in the Maple-Miller Plaza was a feat. "It's hard to get money from the banks," says manager Frank Yaldo, a cousin of the owner Faiz Yaldo. The previous owners left a mess, says Frank, and it was a lot of work to clean it up and furnish it with the basic liquor store taxonomy: vodka, cigarettes, beer, pop, and sweet and salty snacks. The place still looks a little bare, and he says his cousin is trying to decide what to do with the back corner that is still plumbed

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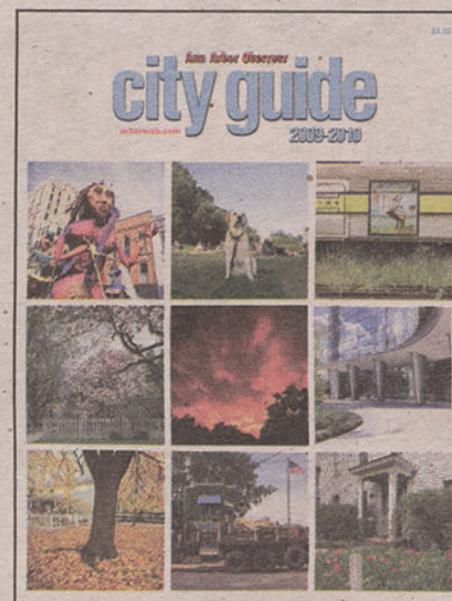
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Marketplace Changes

and partially outfitted for some kind of food concession (it was once a Subway). Nevertheless, the neighbors are breathing a sigh of relief. "The mall looks a lot better with the anchor store on the corner. It creates more traffic, and it's good for the neighborhood," says the manager of Anthony's Pizza.

Maple In-n-Out, 1502 N. Maple (Maple-Miller Plaza). 222-1081. Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. noon-8 p.m.

202020

Pam Turkin opened her first cupcake store by accident. "I overbaked," she says.

She'd been happily making cupcakes in her bakery in Livonia for resale to retailers for months—until the day she made too many. She had to get rid of the extra cupcakes but didn't want to throw them out, so she put an 'open' sign in the window, and people just started showing up. "I think the first day we [sold] eighty-four cupcakes, and we were really excited." When she put up the 'open' sign again the next day and sold twice as many, Pam told her husband, Todd, they had to open their own cupcake store.

The first Just Baked opened in early 2009 in their wholesale bakery. A year later, Just Baked sells 7,000 cupcakes a week out of two stores, and the Turkins opened a third location in Westgate in mid-February. They'll open a fourth in Royal Oak this spring and are on track to add two more later this year.

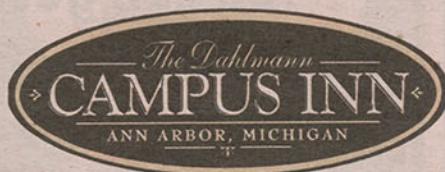
Pam, forty-seven, used to work in marketing and advertising, a job that took her all over the country. A couple of years ago she noticed that cupcake stores were popping up on both coasts. An amateur baker whose cupcakes were popular with family, friends, and coworkers, she decided to give selling them a shot. She spent a year experimenting with recipes, then started selling what she describes as gourmet, jumbo cupcakes out of her kitchen at home. When several stores asked if they could carry them, she knew her home-baking days were over and moved the operation into a former German bakery that still had a working kitchen with baking ovens.

"Everything we do, we do from scratch," Pam says. "There's no artificial flavor, no shortening, and we make our own buttercream...and use real fruits and juices for flavoring." Just Baked offers more than thirty kinds, including the Grumpy Cake Cupcake, a rich devil's food cake stuffed with vanilla buttercream, then topped with buttercream pillows and dipped in homemade icing; and the Fat Elvis Cupcake, a moist banana cake topped with peanut-butter buttercream and hand dipped in icing. All the gourmet cupcakes are \$2.25.

The baking is still done at the original Livonia location, and Pam doesn't bake as often as she used to—she leaves that to a team of bakers that includes a professional pastry chef. But she still experiments with new recipes and tests them on her family, deciding which recipes to keep based on how fast the cupcakes get eaten. "When



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you have five teenagers," she says, "it's a really good testing ground."

Just Baked, 2463 W. Stadium (Westgate). 585-5354. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. www.justbakedshop.com

The west side is bulging with pharmacies. A derelict Kentucky Fried Chicken went under the wrecking ball in January (along with adjacent Schlotsky's, vacant since 2003) to make room for a **Walgreens**. Walgreens will join RiteAid (Westgate), the Village Pharmacy II and Kmart pharmacy (both in Maple Village), the pharmacy at Kroger, and the CVS at Liberty and Stadium to make six drugstores within half a mile. It would have been seven, but Plum Market recently closed its pharmacy, which had included homeopathic remedies.

Closings

After nearly sixty years as Ann Arbor's premier purveyor of fine china and crystal, and for decades the first stop for many Ann Arborites looking for the perfect, high-end gift, the **John Leidy Shop** planned to close its doors for the last time at the end of February. It's the latest small, family-owned Ann Arbor business to fall victim to a rapidly changing retail environment.

John Leidy opened the store in 1951 in the Michigan Theater building on East Liberty. Widowed in 1955, he married Ann Melius in 1959, after meeting her at a trade show and persuading her to move from New York, where she worked for an importer. Together they opened a second location on the other side of the theater entrance in the sixties.

When Leidy died in 1993, his daughter Liz Arsenault took over the store. She oversaw the consolidation of both shops into one location in 2006, a decision made to lower overhead in the face of competition from big-box stores and the Internet. Then came the recession. With the lease on the original store coming up for renewal this year, Arsenault and her siblings decided the time had finally come to close their father's original location as well. It wasn't just the family that felt the loss: she says she's been touched by how many old customers dropped by to say good-bye and share their memories of both her father and the store.

It wasn't just the Leidy family that felt the loss when the closing was announced. Liz Arsenault says she's been touched by how many old customers dropped by to say good-bye and share their memories of both her father and the store.

recession taking its ugly toll on gas stations as it's taking its toll on everything else?

Jeff Lenard, spokesman for the National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS), provides some perspective.

"In 1997 there were 5,447 fueling outlets in Michigan. By 2009 that had gone to 4,828. What happened? It's just harder to make money selling gas."

Gas, Lenard says, is sold at a markup of about 15¢ per gallon—and if customers pay with plastic, 6¢ per gallon goes to the credit card company. Raising prices is not an option: "If you're a convenience store, you have to have pretty close to the cheapest gas, because we know that people will do extraordinary things to save three cents a gallon."

Like, for instance, drive all the way to Sam's Club. "Sam's Club doesn't have to make money selling gas to continue to sell gas," Lenard says. "You'll go there to get what you think is a good price on gas, and while you're there, you'll say, 'Hey, I drove ten miles out of my way. I might as well buy \$100 worth of groceries.'"

The bottom line is that gas alone won't keep a business going: "If you're not selling coffee, or sandwiches, you're probably not destined for the long term," says Lenard. But now that side of the business is also hurting: how much string cheese and Red Bull can a store sell when every other corner in town is selling them? "If you go to Best Buy, say, or PetSmart, they all look like convenience stores at the register," Lenard points out.

"Here's a statistic for you: twenty-two percent of furniture stores sell sweet and salty snacks at the register."

Washtenaw Mini Mart, according to city tax records, was foreclosed and sold at sheriff's auction in October 2008 but remained open until last fall. An employee of adjacent Cold Stone Creamery says "they had a security problem. They kept getting robbed. They had no

lights out there." And is it really such a good location? One Cold Stone employee says yes, but another says it had visibility problems—people would shoot past it before they noticed it was there.

Buddy's Mini Mart, according to city records, hadn't paid property taxes since 2007. Richard Sakstrup, owner of Sakstrup's Towing two doors down, says he knew the business was troubled. A few old-timers at Banfield's who keep up with the neighborhood say the same thing. There's a gas station and convenience store on the opposite corner and another just west. Will Banfield opines that the Rite Aid that recently opened on the southwest corner of Packard and Platt might have put the final nail in the coffin.

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Two prominent Marathon stations, **Buddy's Mini Mart** at Packard and Platt and **Washtenaw Mini Mart** in front of Arborland, closed last fall. Is there something going on with Marathon? Or is this just the

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Restaurant Reviews

Seva

Back to the future

Ann Arbor has hundreds of restaurants, but only one boasts an open-face cheese melt piled with fresh veggies (including alfalfa sprouts) that has been on the menu since the 1970s. At Seva, this guacamole-topped time machine is called the Persea, from the Latin for avocado. You can have yours with fresh carrot juice as you sit in a tall-backed booth in one of Seva's three dining rooms, all decorated with hanging plants.

The others in your party can suit themselves with omelets (from the all-day breakfast options), ravioli, burritos, North African curried couscous, or killer margaritas with lip-smackingly fresh lime juice. The menu options seem endless, and clashing cuisines may keep you from wanting to sample off each other's plates. With this many choices, everyone should be able to find something appealing.

I may be in a minority of longtime locals who haven't harbored strong feelings (positive or negative) about the city's landmark vegetarian restaurant. I remember it as a good place to take toddlers—a big plastic box of Legos arrives at the table along with the booster chair. When my children were little, everyone in our family had menu favorites, from monster nachos to waffles with strawberries. I had my first taste of butternut squash lusciously drenched in cream sauce here, and my first spicy-sweet Moroccan tomato soup. But as the kids grew older and more restaurants arrived in town, Seva rarely topped our list for a night out. Someone always wanted meat or to keep an eye on the big game on TV. Years went by when I never went there.

Now Seva is easing into middle age along with me. My husband has given up beef as he watches his cholesterol, and friends have gone gluten free or pledged to eat more "real food." Seva now comes to mind on cold winter days when a hearty bowl of soup sounds good or anytime a fresh salad seems appealing.

Meat is optional for us, but what about for those two kids who used to build the Lego towers on Seva's wood tables? One is sixteen and a hungry carnivore. The other is twenty, environmentally conscious, and vegetarian fringing on vegan. His demographic feels comfortable at the buffet-style Earthen Jar around the corner.

Would my family all find enough to like at Seva these days? Has it bridged the transition from hippie hangout to Gen Y hipster pleaser? We went for a brunch to find out.

Weekends with teenagers mean that



A cheerful hostess led us to a booth. A server with tidily tied dreadlocks kept our waters filled. A busgirl with a tattoo of a big black wolf on her arm explained its significance politely when we asked: "My friends call me Animal."

Good thing we were being well attended to before we even ordered, because seven pages of menu and specials, plus a mini-booklet from the juice bar, took a while to peruse. A basket of yam fries with spicy sauce jumped out among appetizer choices, and they turned out to be more crispy-warm deliciousness than anyone should expect for \$4.95. A second little cup of the dipping sauce with a horseradish kick appeared quickly after we depleted the first.

I ordered the posole verde special, described as a "zippy soup" of tomatillos and hominy flavored with lime, cilantro, and chilis and topped with roasted pumpkin seeds. I liked the slightly doughy hominy, which resembled mini-gnocchi or matzo balls floating in the broth, but the lime juice overpowered the other ingredients. (On a later visit I tried the Greek-style lentil soup and was pleased to see the citrus side of the broth toned down to a perfect proportion.) Seva servers can often provide the ingredient list when you ask about a menu item. I like that in a restaurant—and I'm also impressed that their website has up-to-date lists of weekly specials.

A basket of yam fries with spicy sauce jumped out among appetizer choices, and they turned out to be more crispy-warm deliciousness than anyone should expect for \$4.95.

noon is breakfast time for some, lunch for others, but we all went for made-to-order juice drinks. Mine was a gingery citrus "Solar Blast" from the staff favorites list, which at \$2.95 was a good deal—and every bit as zippy as the soup. I liked it better than the \$4.95 "From the Tropics" smoothie that my older son ordered, which was heavier on mango nectar than on banana or strawberries (the latter mainly evidenced only by a couple frozen hulls in the bottom of the glass). Still, it went well with his Caribbean quesadilla, a grilled whole wheat tortilla filled with black beans, brown rice, veggies, and cheese, and topped with pineapple salsa and guacamole. The accompanying house-made tortilla chips had a welcome dusting of red pepper and salt.

He said the complementary sweet and spicy flavors made him realize how lacking in creativity his college's dining hall vegetarian entrées were—there they "just leave the meat out and call it vegetarian."

I was tempted to order the decadent enchiladas calabaza filled with butternut squash and cream cheese, a comfort food I've loved in the past and that's now billed as "Seva's best seller!" Instead, I chose the spinach and mushroom enchiladas, thinking they would be similar but less rich.

Wrong. They came covered in a tasty but thick sour cream sauce that quickly congealed unattractively. I enjoyed one enchilada with the shredded lettuce and onion side salad but got a take-home box for the other (and couldn't believe how heavy it was).

My younger son's three blueberry pancakes with real maple syrup were each nearly as big as his head. He couldn't finish them, but I blame the yam fries and smoothie that came first. He rallied to nibble at the dense vegan chocolate cake we shared for dessert. It was OK, and had a lovely bright mint garnish but certainly is not the best chocolate dessert around.

A vegan chocolate mousse on our next visit was similarly so-so, more syrupy than dense. "Why didn't they just call it chocolate pudding?" a friend wondered. It also launched our somewhat clueless server into a mad dash through the kitchen and beyond as she tried to determine if it was gluten free, at my friend's request. The



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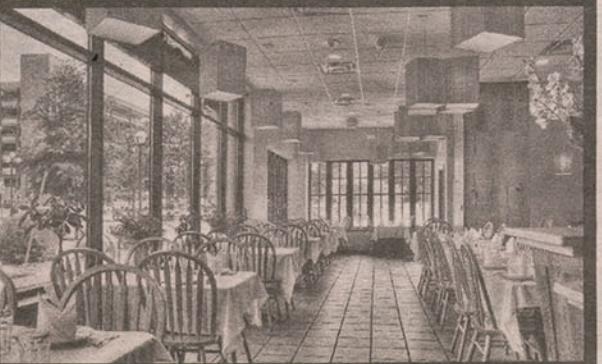
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trusty ingredient list was not to be found.

One of the specials was little short of miraculous. The savory vegan pot pie with oven-roasted winter vegetables had such a rich brown gravy that I didn't miss the meat at all. Big chunks of mushroom structured the potato-chunked filling, and the flaky top crust reminded me you don't need butter to make great pie crust.

Another successful entrée during this visit was the regular menu's curried eggplant. Grilled and topped with spicy peanut-coconut sauce, it comes with an unusual beet-soy yogurt raita on the side. The result glimmered as a successful meshing of piquant, sweet, and smoky in a Cezanne-esque palette of colors. A raspberry cheesecake bar was the best dessert we sampled, thin enough to be tasty yet not overpowering.

What? A half dozen meals at a vegetarian restaurant and no tofu or tempeh? That's how it worked for us, mainly because we had so many other options that we could skip the soy proteins. "Fresh imaginative vegetarian cuisine" is the slogan on Seva's menu, and mostly that's a good thing. Creative globalizing of its vast menu is helping propel Ann Arbor's robust vegetarian institution into the 2010s. Picky eaters of most types and ages can be satisfied here—even "eat raw" aficionados. Decades have passed, but Seva's day is still dawning.

—Mary Beth Lewis

Seva
314 E. Liberty **662-1111**

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Appetizers \$4-\$9, entrée salads and sandwiches \$4-\$11, dinners \$9-\$15, desserts \$4-\$6

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Pilar's Tamale Shop

Hold the parchment.

As surely as a crocheted cupcake or a photo of a bear nuzzling with a kitten, Pilar's Tamale Shop is calculated to charm. Everything about the compact storefront eatery, from its brightly colored walls to its smiling crew of staffers, seems designed to make foodies melt—assuming their knees haven't already buckled at the sight of a menu generously sprinkled with the words *free-range, all-natural, grass-fed, and organic*.

Owner Sylvia Nolasco-Rivers has already wooed and won a huge contingent of Ann Arbor eaters who first became familiar with her Salvadoran specialties by seeing her tamale wagon around town—and, since last year, on a regular basis at the Farmers' Market. Her new takeout-oriented restaurant on Liberty Street is her second go at a fixed location: Pilar's Café was open briefly on South State Street a few years back.

But Nolasco-Rivers' heart is clearly with her cart, which radiates an energetic, grassroots vibe. As she prepared to open her new café last November, she told AnnArbor.com: "I am telling people who know me to pretend this is my cart."

That doesn't take too much imagination: Pilar's Tamale Shop has a highly provisional feel. Nolasco-Rivers has hung onto shortcuts that really don't belong in a restaurant with a roof and a door, and the food isn't any better for it. While her more sentimental fans will no doubt adore the restaurant's casual approach to cookery, newcomers are likely to be put off by its still-mobile mindset. On my first visit to Pilar's, *horchata* was being ladled out of a giant lidless storage bin, and a toddler was running pell-mell through the kitchen.

More troublesome still, Pilar's steams its tamales in parchment paper and foil instead of the traditional Salvadoran banana

leaves. Wiciency the concept. Alarcon—the historic parchment that's out.

Salvadoran creamier wrapped in banana leaves for the mieriorate. That was the tamale.

In some good. Pil dozen different savory. I especiallying rich and strictly tra with well latives, and impressiv

But fe up to the plugged gooey gray cond and-gooeable c idly orange tamale; the peppers w

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I'd fin at lower \$4 for a ingle high one made ingre sells its u dozen.) V out a lot to plop of rice slaw.

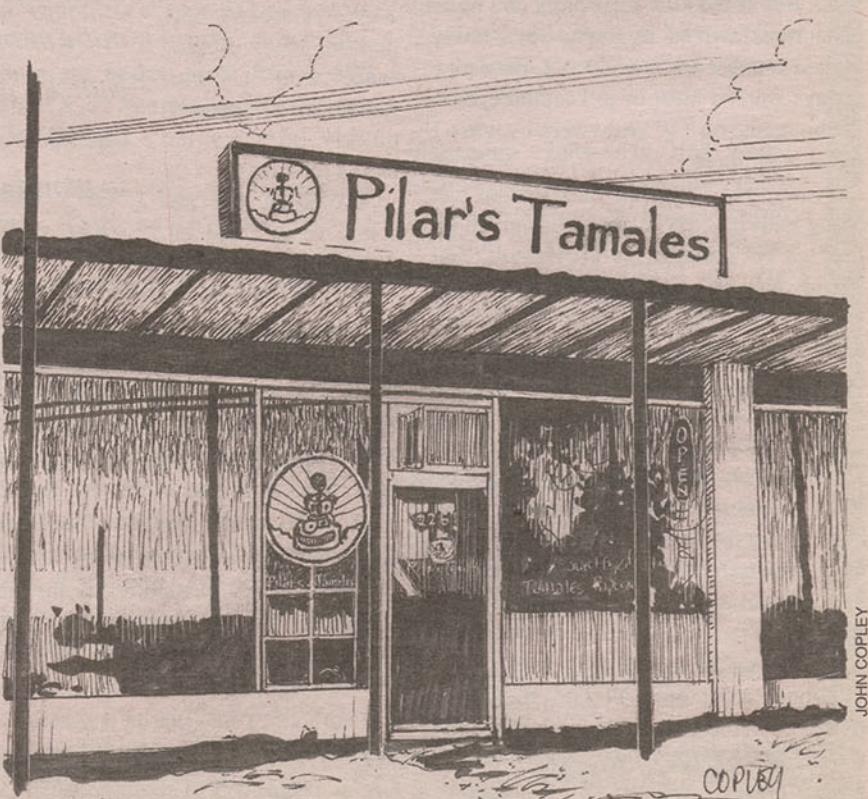
I want dedication producers can't sur food has already hearts—i tion to the

Pilar's
2261 W
www.pi

Mon.-S

Tamales
other da

Step at



leaves. While not unheard of, it's an expediency that undermines the whole tamale concept. I consulted food writer Claudia Alarcon—who's writing a book about the history of tamales—for her opinion of the practice. "I have never seen them on parchment," Alarcon told me. "I am sure that's out of convenience."

Salvadoran tamales tend to be a bit creamier than Mexican tamales, which are wrapped in less porous corn husks. Still, a banana leaf provides plenty of protection for the masa, which would otherwise deteriorate into a custardy, flavorless mush. That was the very problem afflicting all the tamales I sampled at Pilar's.

In some cases, the stuffing was quite good. Pilar's changing menu includes a dozen different tamales, both sweet and savory. The best varieties strike both notes: I especially liked a turkey tamale featuring rich dark meat and syrupy prunes. A strictly traditional tamale *de puerco*, made with well-seasoned pork, bits of green olives, and chunks of potatoes, was equally impressive.

But few of the stuffings could stand up to the spongy masa. A counterwoman plugged the black bean tamales as "ooey, gooey goodness," but the mud-puddle-gray concoction was well beyond my ooh-and-goo threshold, even without any detectable cheese. There was plenty of vividly orange cheese in my jalapeno-cheese tamale; this time, though, the promised peppers were aggravatingly omitted.

The most flavorful thing I found on my plate was the house red sauce, a smoky, peppery concoction that almost expunged my stuffing-related complaints. I slathered my tamales with the terrifically good sauce, so robust that Pilar's could easily serve it as a soup.

I'd find Pilar's flaws easier to forgive at lower prices. The restaurant charges \$4 for a tamale, which seems shockingly high for such a simple dish—even one made with environmentally sensitive ingredients. (Evie's Tamales in Detroit sells its unpedigreed version for \$6.25 a dozen.) While Pilar's is obviously putting out a very different product, \$10 feels like a lot to pay for two tamales, a stingy dollop of rice and beans, and a dry, vinegary slaw.

I want to love Pilar's. Nolasco-Rivers' dedication to her community and its food producers is admirable. But a restaurant can't survive on philosophy alone; the food has to taste good too. Pilar's has already claimed many Ann Arborites' hearts—it's now time to pay more attention to their palates.

—Hanna Raskin

Pilar's Tamale Shop
2261 W. Liberty 829-9978
www.pilarscatering.com

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*Ann Arbor Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, Washtenaw County Economic Analysis, MSU, October, 2006

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Back Page

i Spy

by Sally Bjork

Anvil and particles— identify either

To enter this month's contest, use the clue above and photo at right to find the spot shown, then send in your answer to the address in the shaded box at the bottom of this page.

"I Spy Café Verde (or at least the floor above...)," writes Noah Levin. The building on North Fourth is "all of 200 feet from the Observer's door," points out Ross Orr. "It's the People's Food Co-op's café," adds Jeri Hollister. "I love that place."

Café Verde, in operation since 2001 and renovated in 2004, is the "green below" the ornated windows featured in February's I Spy. Part of the People's Food Co-op, Café Verde is run with the same principles that guide the socially responsible, en-



vironmentally friendly natural food store, selling fair trade coffee as well as a multitude of other beverages, baked goods, and items from the co-op's hot and salad bar.

Eleven entrants spied Café Verde. Sean Hillson won our random drawing; he'll be taking his \$25 gift certificate to the Common Grill in Chelsea.

by Jay Forstner

We received 173 entries to our little contest last month, of which 169 correctly identified the Fake Ad for International Introductions on p. 30 of the February issue.

Most Fake Adders thought the ad, which offered to match "Women of American United States" with experienced gentlemen from overseas—a twist on the ubiquitous ads offering to match foreign young women with American men—was clever. "Cute," wrote David Cooke. "I guess turnabout is fair play!"

And Susan Boyes wrote: "I love this ad. It must have been so much fun to write!"

Women of American United States,

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International Introductions

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Web: www.internationalintroductions.com

Anita Yu was chosen as our winner. She's taking her gift certificate to Zingerman's.

To enter this month's contest, find the fake ad and follow the instructions in the box below. The Fake Ad always includes the word "arborweb"—in February, it bridged the street and web addresses.

To enter either contest, send email with the subject "Fake Ad" or "I Spy" to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, 48104. Fax: 769-3375. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received by noon on March 10 will be eligible for this month's random drawings. Winners will receive \$25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

Will you be our friend?

See page 70.

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So go online—and get the word out!



Events at a Glance

Daily Events listings begin on p. 29. Films: p. 31. Galleries: p. 47. Nightspots begin on p. 66.

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- Trio La Vita, Mar. 6
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, Mar. 7
- Classical guitarist Robert Gruca, Mar. 7
- Dexter Community Orchestra, Mar. 7
- Empire Brass, Mar. 12
- U-M & Harvard men's glee clubs, Mar. 13
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Mar. 13
- Soprano Tony Arnold & violinist Movses Pogossian, Mar. 14
- Takacs Quartet, Mar. 15
- Violinist Gabriel Bolkosky & pianist Ling-Ju Lai, Mar. 18
- San Francisco Symphony, Mar. 19 & 20
- Ann Arbor Public Schools "Bands in Review," Mar. 20 & 21
- U-M Friars, Mar. 20
- Ypsilanti Community Band, Mar. 21
- Huron Valley Harmonizers barbershop chorus, Mar. 21
- Boychoir of Ann Arbor, Mar. 21
- DSO Horn Quartet, Mar. 22
- Violinist Julia Fischer, Mar. 24
- Harpsichordist Edward Parmentier & violinist Aaron Berofsky, Mar. 27
- U-M Javanese Gamelan Ensemble Mar. 28
- Greensleaves early-music ensemble, Mar. 28

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See Nightspots, p. 66, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs

- Stephen Stills (folk-rock singer-songwriter), Mar. 6
- The Ragbirds (country-rock), Mar. 8
- Avett Brothers (postpunk roots music), Mar. 9
- Andrew Kratzat Quartet (jazz), Mar. 10
- Ray Davies (Brit pop singer-songwriter), Mar. 11
- Kate Olson Quartet (jazz), Mar. 12
- Kat Eggleston (folk), Mar. 12
- Alberto Rojo Trio (Argentine), Mar. 13
- Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Mar. 17
- Dave Boutette (folk-rock), Mar. 19
- Randy Weston's African Rhythms (jazz), Mar. 20
- Acaizeiro (Brazilian jazz), Mar. 25
- "Winter Jam" with NewSong, & others (Christian rock), Mar. 26
- Michael Johnson (pop-folk), Mar. 26
- David Mosher (singer-songwriter), Mar. 27
- Constellation Nero (jazz), Mar. 27

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Gravity* (Purple Rose), Mar. 3–7, 10–14, 17–21, & 23–27
- *It Came from Mars* (Performance Network), Mar. 4–7, 11–14, & 18–21
- *You Can't Take It with You* (Friends of the Michigan League), Mar. 11–14
- *Beyond Therapy* (P.T.D. Productions), Mar. 11–14 & 18–20
- *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre), Mar. 11–14
- U-M Impact Dance, Mar. 12 & 13
- "Introduction to Playwright Maxsym Kurochkin" (U-M Residential College), Mar. 14, 16, & 17
- "Playfest 2010" (U-M Theatre Department), Mar. 15–20

- *Hotel Paradiso* (EMU Theatre Department), Mar. 19–21 & 25–27
- *Man of La Mancha* (U-M MUSKET), Mar. 19–21
- *Angika: Sculpture and the Dancing Body* (Srishti Dances of India), Mar. 20
- *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* (U-M Basement Arts), Mar. 20
- Sole Full of Rhythm tap dance ensemble, Mar. 25–27
- *The Candy Dancer* (Thurston Community Players), Mar. 25–27
- *Armide* (U-M Opera Theater), Mar. 25–28
- *Uncle Vanya* (Maly Drama Theater of St. Petersburg), Mar. 25–28
- *The Dixie Swim Club* (Chelsea Area Players), Mar. 26–28
- *Wonderful Town* (Greenhills School), Mar. 26–28
- *Alice in Wonderland* (U-M Residential College Players), Mar. 26–28
- *Hedwig & the Angry Inch* (U-M Basement Arts), Mar. 27

Comedy & Performance Art

- Comic Moshe Kasher, Mar. 4–6
- Comic Joe DeVito, Mar. 11–13
- Comic Lynne Koplitz, Mar. 18–20
- "Femme Porn Tour," Mar. 20
- Comic Jim McHugh, Mar. 25–27

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee "Grinds of March," Mar. 13
- Builders & Remodelers Association "Home, Garden, & Lifestyle Show," Mar. 19–21
- Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club "Melody on Ice," Mar. 19 & 20

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Poets Darcie Dennigan and Tung-Hui Hu, Mar. 11
- U-M Conference "Celebrating 50 Years of Activism," Mar. 12
- Novelist Yiyun Li, Mar. 18
- Novelists Debra Spark & Susan Messer, Mar. 19
- Fiction writers Dan Chaon, Laura van den Berg, & Christian TeBordo, Mar. 20
- Novelist Chang-rae Lee, Mar. 24
- Poet Lorna Goodison and novelist V.V. Ganeshanathan, Mar. 25
- Fiction writer Thomas Lynch, Mar. 25

Family & Kids' Stuff

- Justin Roberts & the Not Ready for Naptime Players, Mar. 13
- Cyro Baptista's Beat the Donkey family show, Mar. 13
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra family concert, Mar. 14
- People Dancing family show, Mar. 20
- *Are You My Mother?* (ArtsPower National Touring Theater), Mar. 21
- "Child's Play XVIII: Carnival of the Animals" (EMU Music Department), Mar. 21
- *Once upon a Time* (Wild Swan Theater), Mar. 25–27
- *The Enchanted Attic* (Young Actors Guild), Mar. 25–27
- Gemini family concert, Mar. 28

"Only in Ann Arbor"

Event of the Month

- Media ecologist Gerry Fialka's "Dream Awake: How James Joyce Invented Experimental Cinema and Disguised It as a Book," Mar. 26

MARCH 2010

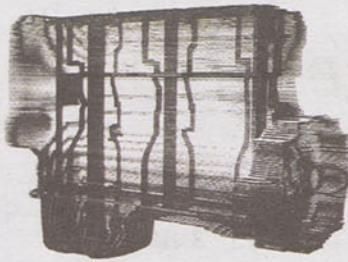
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Mar. 8 - April 2

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Work • Detroit, 3663 Woodward Ave

Mar. 11

PENNY W. STAMPS
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SERIES: **Dayna Baumeister**



Dr. Dayna Baumeister, co-founder of the Biomimicry Guild, discusses biomimicry and its role in a new greener industrial revolution. With support from the Life Sciences Institute, Taubman College, The Graham Sustainability Institute, the College of Engineering, the School of Natural Resources and the Environment, and the Program in the Environment. **Presentation:** 5:10pm **Michigan Theater,** 603 E. Liberty

Feb. 12 - Mar. 12

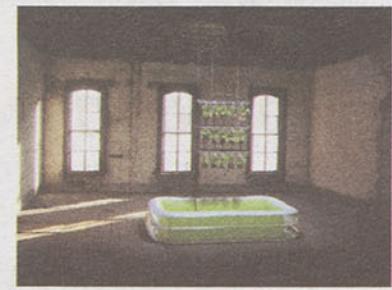
EXHIBITION: **Dis-Illusion**



While traditional forms of visual illusion create a non-reality, disillusion destroys a reality. This group exhibition examines illusion and dis-illusion in all its meanings.
Work • Ann Arbor, 306 S. State

Mar. 12 - April 2

EXHIBITION:
A&D MFA Thesis Exhibition



With work by UM School of Art & Design MFA candidates Emily Orzech, Ashley Lieber (Psychosustainium), Rui Mu, Emir Alibasic, and Reem Gribel.
Reception: March 12, 6:00-9:00pm
Slusser Gallery, 1st floor, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd.

Mar. 12 - April 2

A&D MFA THESIS EXHIBITION:
These Branches Still Bear Fruit...



With work by UM School of Art & Design MFA candidate Amadeaus Scott
Reception: March 12, 6:00-9:00pm
Robbins Gallery, 2nd floor, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd.

Mar. 17 - April 19

A&D MFA THESIS EXHIBITION:
Exile and Utopia



With work by UM School of Art & Design MFA candidate Aaron Johnson-Ortiz
Show Dates:
March 17, 2:30-5:00pm
March 18, 2:30-9:00pm
March 19, 3:00-5:00pm
Reception: March 18, 4:00-9:00pm
Map Library, 8th floor Hatcher Graduate Library

Mar. 18

PENNY W. STAMPS
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS
SERIES: **Marian Bantjes**



Graphic artist Marian Bantjes is known for the detailed vector art, obsessive hand work, patterning and highly ornamental style that have brought her international recognition. Bantjes discusses how her experiences and travels have shaped her work, and how design contributes to culture and promotes inspired thinking.
With support from AIGA-Detroit.
Presentation: 5:10pm
Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty

Mar. 19 - April 2

EXHIBITION:
The Ghost in the Machine



In conjunction with the Ann Arbor Film Festival, UM alums Oren Goldenberg and C. Jacqueline Wood create a sculptural light installation about the relationships between space and the moving image. This exhibition also includes a light and shadow piece by A&D lecturer, Frank Pahl.
Reception: March 19, 6:00-9:00pm
Work • Ann Arbor, 306 S. State

Mar. 23 - April 7

EXHIBITION:
15th Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners



The nation's largest exhibition of prison art celebrates 15 years at the University of Michigan.
Opening Reception:
March 23, 5:30-8:00pm
Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI

Mar. 25

PENNY W. STAMPS
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS
SERIES: **Matthias Müller**



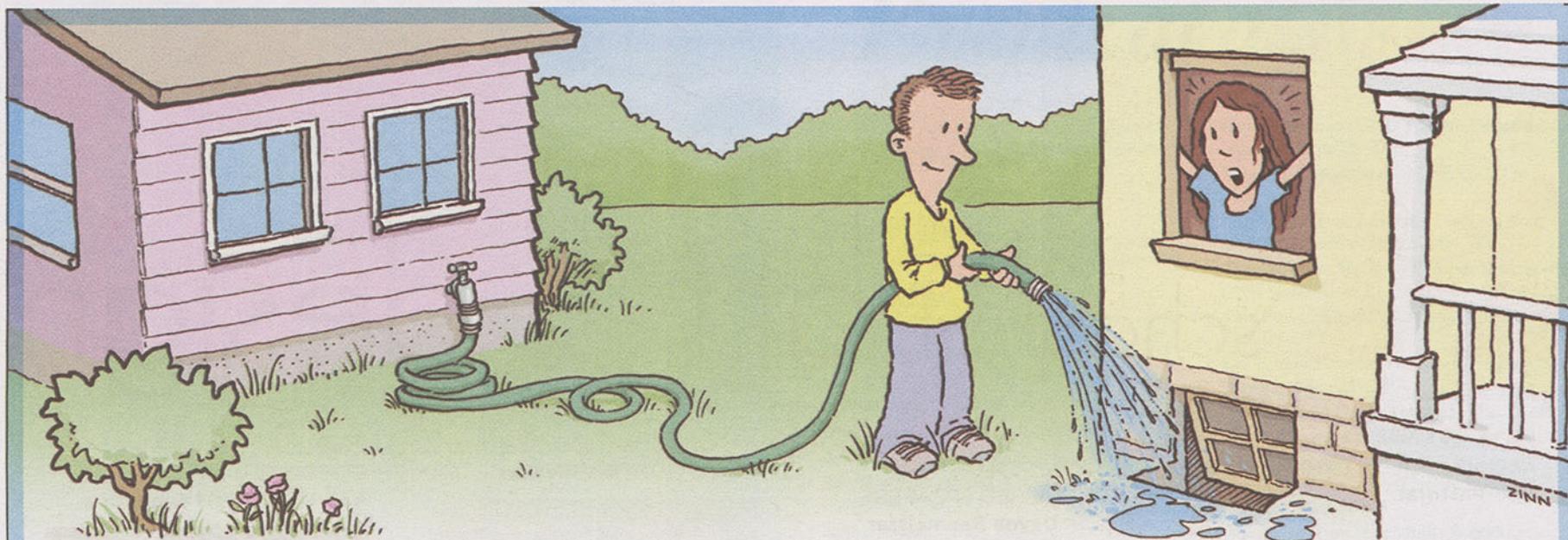
Matthias Müller works in film, video and photography. As a curator, Müller has organized the Found Footage Film Festival. His video installations and photography have been included in documenta X, Manifesta 3, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Museum of Modern Art. With support from the Ann Arbor Film Festival, and the Department of Screen Arts and Cultures.
Presentation: 5:10pm
Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty

A&D LAUNCHES



Featuring work by and about the A&D creative community

**A new website with interviews,
original creative work, a blog, and
snapshots from the studio:
www.playgallery.org**



Not funny? You might be doing it every time it rains!

Footing Drains. They were a nifty fix in the 40s, 50s and 60s - and they still are, when they're not connected to City sanitary sewers! These porous pipe systems buried around the basement walls of some buildings in Ann Arbor have contributed 70-90% of the total volume of water flow entering the sanitary sewer system when it rains, making them the major source of basement backup problems in the City. Additionally, excessive footing drain flow can lead to discharges of partially treated sewage, which results in environmental risks and significant fines.

Ann Arbor's Footing Drain Disconnect program has disconnected and rerouted the footing drains at more than 1500 homes since 2001. This program is mandated by a city ordinance and city funding covers the required expenses.

What does this have to do with you? Even if your home has never experienced a backup, the footing drain flow from your house can cause problems in your neighbors' homes. What's more, footing drain disconnection helps prevent overwhelming the wastewater collection system, as large storms can send millions of gallons of clean water to the treatment plant, risking partially treated overflows to the Huron River.

The next stage of the FDD program will include homes that have never experienced basement backups. Over the coming months information packets will be sent to residents in the neighborhoods of **Alhambra Drive** and **Coronada Street**.

The FDD program is guided by a Citizens Advisory Committee that ensures that the needs of homeowners are always being considered. And the result of this guidance shows. Homeowners who have had footing drains disconnected gave their plumbing contractors and the FDD team the highest marks possible for the past four years.

If you want more information, it's waiting online at www.A2FDD.com, or call the FDD team at (734) 213-5444.

1500
homes with footing drains
disconnected and rerouted from
the sewer system since 2001

4.7
average satisfaction rating out of
a possible 5 by homeowners with
plumbing contractors and the FDD Team

40,000,000
gallons of rain water diverted
every year from the sewer system
and unnecessary treatment

1,460,000
gallons of rain water diverted
from the sewer system
in one storm, September 2008

1
happy Michigan Department
of Environmental Quality


a smaller ecological footprint for Ann Arbor

FIND OUT MORE:

www.A2FDD.com

view 2010 schedule and map on-line



Footing Drain Disconnect:
A solution for you, your neighbors,
our community & the environment!